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Nyasaland

1947



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THE SERIES OF COLONIAL ANNUAL REPORTS which was re-introduced for the year 1946 (after suspension in 1940) is being continued with those relating to 1947.

It is anticipated that the Colonies and Protectorates for which 1947 Reports are being published will, with some additions, be the same as for the previous year (see list on cover page 3).

ANNUAL REPORT ON

THE

NYASALAND

PROTECTORATE

FOR THE YEAR

1947

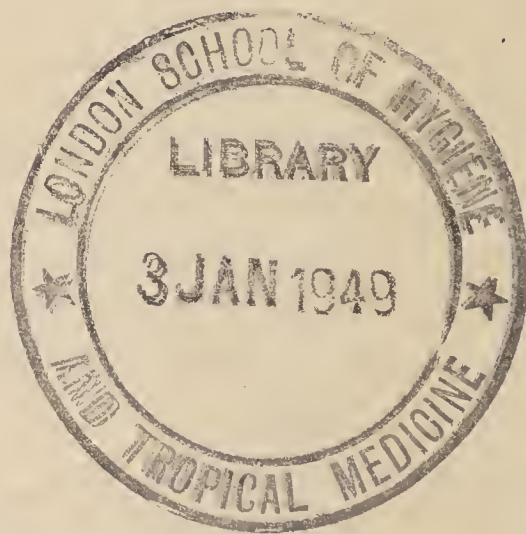
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1948

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PART I

Review of 1947

THE year was one of steady progress; it may have appeared at times that much of it was spent in waiting for things to happen, but although there were delays in business and in the completion of plans which post-war conditions, including the economic crisis, made inevitable, the time was not wasted. Some development plans, both public and private, came into operation, new avenues of development were explored, arrears of work due to the war continued to be made good, and the country benefited greatly from the encouragement given by the steadily increasing interest taken in the African colonies by the people of the United Kingdom. Staff deficiencies were largely made good, recruitment for new appointments was undertaken, and equipment began to become available, although not by any means in the quantities or at the speed which could have been desired. Production and trade continued to expand, as was to be expected in a country whose economy is based on primary products at a time when the world is so desperately in need of them. There were opportunities to study future lines of political and social progress, as well as of economic development, and all this in an atmosphere almost entirely free from industrial or political dissension.

It must be admitted that all activities suffered under a common disability, the paucity of really adequate information about the country, its resources, and its people. Arrangements were, however, made during the year for aerial surveys of much of the country to be made in 1948, as part of the Colonial Survey scheme, which will enable full and accurate maps to be produced; when these are available it will be possible to implement existing plans for a comprehensive land usage survey. The collection of vital statistics of the whole African population began towards the end of 1947, and in due course the information thus acquired will be of great value in social and other planning. Research in many branches was continued or initiated, and the appointment of a Research Secretary to the Central African Council should enable the three territories concerned to make a common effort towards the solution of many of their more pressing problems.

Current information about the population shows one significant trend; the non-native sections of the community are tending to become more stabilised in their relation to the country. The largest of these sections consists of the 3,500 or so Asiatics, mostly of Indian or Pakistani descent, over a third of whom are Nyasaland born. The European element, numbering some 2,500, also includes an increasing number of children and

young people born or brought up in the country and, owing to wartime conditions, educated in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia. At the other end of the age-range is the growing number of Europeans who remain in the country on retirement as permanent residents. There is, therefore, a small but very important and growing group of non-indigenous "Nyasalanders" to whom the Protectorate is their home and who have as good a claim to regard it in that light as many of the African population of the Southern Province, whose presence there results from immigration during the last fifty years.

Production and development were both hampered by the continued shortage of labour; it is true that some 3,000 more emigrant labourers left the country in 1947 than in 1946, but this increase is small in comparison with the number of able-bodied men, more than 20,000, who returned to their homes in 1946 as the result of demobilisation. The true explanation is probably lack of incentives; the returned soldier still had money in his pockets, high prices for native-grown cash crops continued to prevail, and the supply of consumer goods remained far below the demand in spite of rising imports. The result was that improved conditions, including increased wages and better arrangements for the general welfare of employees, met with an inadequate response; it was in some cases necessary for acreages under cultivation on estates to be reduced and improvements to communications and other operations requiring large numbers of labourers were seriously delayed.

Internal labour relations continued on the whole to be satisfactory; the few minor dislocations of work which occurred were in every case due to misunderstandings between employer and employees, and after investigations and explanation the dissatisfied parties returned to their work. No trade union has yet been registered, although there are signs that the African Drivers Association may soon seek registration. There were several important developments concerning emigrant labourers who now number 150,000. They are of their own accord tending more to enter into contracts with the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association to work on the Rand Mines, or with Southern Rhodesian employers for work in that territory, than in the past, and the flow of individuals to other territories in independent search of work is being correspondingly reduced. The percentage of men leaving Nyasaland for South Africa and Southern Rhodesia on contract rose from 24 per cent of the total departures for these countries in 1946 to 44 per cent in 1947. This in itself makes it easier to look after the welfare of these men, and to ensure their return to their homes after a reasonably short period; but a great advance was registered in an Inter-Territorial Labour Agreement negotiated in 1947 between the three Central African territories and expected to come into force about the middle of 1948. This Agreement provides for deferred pay and regular family remittances for all migrant labourers leaving their homes after the introduction of the new system, as well as for their repatriation after a maximum of two years, except in the case of men whose families are living with them at their place of employment. Other arrangements for their well-being will also be improved, and it is hoped that many of the economic and social evils of migration will at least be

greatly mitigated, if not removed. Negotiations were also begun with the South African Government regarding the problems presented by the presence in the Union of a large number of emigrants from Nyasaland; these are still in progress.

External trade continued to expand: the revival which began in the second half of 1946 gained much ground during 1947, but although imports in a number of classes rose above pre-war levels there is still no indication that saturation point is being approached; the quantity of cotton piece-goods, for example, imported during the year was 16,500,000 yards, compared with a little under 9,000,000 yards in 1946, but there has been no diminution in demand. Both imports and exports were hindered by serious congestion for some months at the port of Beira, but new records were established for the values of both; the total value of imports for the year was £3,513,000, compared with £2,000,000 in 1946 and £1,580,000 in 1945, and that of exports was £2,761,000 compared with £2,365,000 and £1,876,000 in 1946 and 1945 respectively. The economic crisis provided a number of serious problems, but it had not noticeably affected the country's trade by the end of the year.

Internal trade was brisk and there was a ready market for most supplies, although the imposition of an excise duty on tobacco early in the year was followed by a marked decline in the sale of pipe tobacco for native consumption. The number of applications for new trading licences, especially by Africans, was very considerable, and there was a new and potentially most important development in the organisation of the country's first consumer co-operative societies, catering almost entirely for the African. Difficulties were experienced by embryo societies in the urban areas in obtaining premises or the materials for building them, but a number of rural societies made a good start; the turnover of one during its first six months of existence was some twelve times the amount of its capital. Price control legislation continued in force during the year, but it was not easy to obtain public co-operation in enforcing it. The general cost of living continued to rise.

Agriculture experienced a somewhat difficult year. The season began well with unusually good planting conditions, but prolonged dry intervals followed and young crops suffered a setback from which they did not recover. Despite the added difficulties of shortages of labour and fertilisers, however, results were not unsatisfactory so far as the production of cash crops was concerned. Tung and tobacco both enjoyed record years. The cultivation of the former was extended by over 3,000 acres, an increase of nearly a quarter over the previous year, and the quantity of oil extracted from the 1947 crop was nearly double the output for 1946. The investigation and development work begun in the Vipya area in 1946 made good progress, although owing to the amount of preliminary clearing and construction required only 25 acres of tung trees had been planted before the beginning of the 1947-48 rainy season; it is hoped that before the end of that season a further 350 acres will have been added to the plantations, which have so far made excellent growth. The total output of tobacco during 1947 is estimated at about 14,500 tons, of which some 8,500 tons were grown on Native Trust Land, under the guidance

of the Native Tobacco Board, by African producers. Prices fluctuated violently, but producers, especially the European growers of flue-cured tobacco, received good returns; the flue-cured crop was augmented by the first harvest from the experimental station at Kasungu, the produce of which earned favourable opinions. Tea in particular suffered from the shortages already referred to, and production dropped by approximately 500 tons; prices were satisfactory. Cotton production as a whole was above average, the total output being about 5,000 tons of seed cotton, four-fifths of which went to the Ministry of Supply; the price to the producer was 3d. a pound, an increase of 50 per cent on the 1946 price.

Turning to food crops, considerable quantities of both rice and beans were available for export, in spite of a considerable deficiency of maize, the staple food of most of the country's inhabitants. This deficiency was such that the Maize Control Board, in its first year of operation, was only able to allocate to industrial and other large consumers 40 per cent of their stated requirements; it was fortunate that surpluses of cassava and rice were available to help in making good this deficiency. The maize crop undoubtedly suffered from unfavourable weather, but the deficiency is threatening to become annual, as an increasing population, with improving standards of living, makes growing demands on the country's soil. The problems thus raised affect the whole social and economic life of the country and its people, including the traditional methods of cultivation and systems of land tenure. These problems received much attention during the year; details of some of the methods proposed for their solution are given in Part II, Chapter 6. Following upon the publication of the Land Commission Report by Sir Sidney Abrahams a Land Planning Committee was set up to study the particular problems dealt with by him; its report was expected to be ready early in 1948.

Operations against soil erosion were carried on by both Government and private landowners as vigorously as staff permitted, the more seriously affected or threatened areas receiving intensive attention with the help of grants from the Native Development and Welfare Fund, which receives profits from Government trading in native-grown crops and part of those arising from the operations of the Native Tobacco Board. The Natural Resources Board, established under an Ordinance of 1946, had a busy year. One of the problems with which it had to deal was that of contending with the erosion of areas carrying too heavy a cattle population. Intensive propaganda was carried out in one of the most seriously affected areas in the Ncheu District among a people traditionally devoted to their cattle; this was followed by destocking legislation for that area, and it is satisfactory to record that with the co-operation of an enlightened Native Administration operations proceeded smoothly and without incident. An ample market for the meat of the beasts removed was available in the Southern Province. The only true solution of these problems, however, lies in education in its widest sense, and a contribution towards this solution was made during the year by the initiation of courses in rural science for qualified teachers employed in country schools.

Much attention was also given to forestry problems. It has become increasingly obvious that the Protectorate's existing resources of industrial

timber are not likely to be sufficient for its long-term development. Plans were therefore drawn up and approved for the afforestation of comparatively large areas of suitable country and for the adoption of improved methods of extraction. Similar considerations apply to rural and fuel supplies. These problems also were studied, but any general attempt to deal with them had to be deferred until the staff provided under the post-war development plans became available. It is hoped that they will arrive in 1948. In dealing with these matters valuable assistance was derived from the Report of the Forestry Adviser to the Secretary of State, Mr. Robertson, and from the report of a local commission which studied the questions affecting game and forest reserves. Private exploitation of forest resources continued to be confined to one firm, apart from a number of fuel contractors; this enterprise extended its operations in the Ruvo forests on Mlanje Mountain and also undertook satisfactory experiments in the production of plywood from local timber. Other projected developments in this branch of the country's economy include the growing of wattle on the Vipya uplands and the production of paper pulp from a common variety of reed which grows profusely on the country's marshes and stream banks.

The Protectorate's revenue was buoyant, and expenditure was checked by staff and materials, provided for in the 1947 estimates, not coming forward; an estimated deficit of £13,000 for the year was converted in the revised estimates into a surplus of £134,000, due mainly to a considerable increase in customs revenue; income tax, native tax, and profits from the operations of the Southern Rhodesia Currency Board also contributed. The situation reflects an expanding economy, as well as a decline in the value of money with its marked effect on a country of primary producers, but careful management will be necessary to ensure the successful completion of the development programme. Salaries and other costs are rising, and demands for services are increasing. A Fiscal Survey was conducted towards the end of 1946. Following upon its recommendations a number of alterations were made in the fiscal system: income tax on companies was prescribed at 7s. 6d. in the £, with no differentiation between local and other companies; the customs tariff was amended, notably by an increase in the duty on cotton piece-goods; an excise duty was imposed on tobacco, and, with the agreement of the African Protectorate and Provincial Councils, and partly on their initiative, the rate of native tax for 1948 was raised to a flat 10s. per tax payer throughout the Protectorate (save for two small islands in Lake Nyasa). During the year grants were approved under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act to a total of £1,634,383. The Protectorate's total allocation under the Act is £2,000,000, apart from its interest in a joint allocation of £1,000,000 shared with Northern Rhodesia and in the central allocation for research.

The country remains comparatively law-abiding, considering the primitiveness of much of its population and the fact that there is only one policeman to approximately every 5,000 inhabitants. Professional burglars continued to be a nuisance in the townships, but improved police methods kept them under some degree of control. Crimes involving personal violence were numerous, and a large number of such cases were

connected with beer drinks. The practice of lacing ordinary native beer with potent and dangerous locally distilled concoctions liable to deprive the drinker of all self-control appears to be spreading. Administration, Police and native authorities, as well as the general public, are co-operating in an attempt to improve matters and to tighten up the licensing system. The process of devolving more responsibility upon African members of the Police and of raising the general standard of education within the Force continued.

Good progress was made with the modernisation of the prison system. The classification and segregation of the various types of prisoner is now generally possible, and emphasis continues to be laid upon the remedial aspect of punishment. The farm connected with the Central Prison was further developed during the year, and its equipment now includes a herd of cattle, so that animal husbandry may be taught to the first offenders who are quartered there. General behaviour within the prisons was good, reflecting improved conditions and morale. There were no cases of corporal punishment for breaches of prison discipline.

An approved school, under the management of the Prisons Department, was opened towards the end of the year at a former agricultural training centre near Zomba. It has an African staff of five and is under the immediate control of an African head teacher, supervised by visiting officers of the Department. The boys, who numbered nine at the close of 1947, receive ordinary educational instruction to which is added a great deal of practical work, including the conversion of the buildings which they occupy and the making of furniture and equipment. They appear to be happy and live a useful life.

There was considerable activity in educational matters during the year. The third year of the first five-year educational development plan, half of the recurrent expenditure on which is found from a Colonial Development and Welfare grant of £269,000, passed smoothly. As this programme was half-way to completion the Advisory Committee on African Education, which keeps the position under constant review, set up a committee to prepare plans for the second five year period, which begins in 1950. The urgent need of the country for well-educated leaders occupied much of the attention of those interested in education, who include, among Africans, the Nyasaland African Congress and the members of the African Protectorate and Provincial Councils. The former decided, after lengthy discussions with Government, that it was desirable to send a deputation to London to lay their views upon educational policy before the Secretary of State, a suggestion which he has accepted. African secondary education came under review in the report of a special committee appointed in 1946, and consideration is being given to the best means of raising the standard of the local schools to matriculation. On this, as on a number of other educational problems, particularly those connected with the education of women and girls, the Protectorate enjoyed the benefit of the advice of Miss F. H. Gwilliam, Assistant Educational Adviser to the Secretary of State, and Dr. Margaret Read, Head of the Institute of Education of the University of London, who visited Nyasaland during the year.

The Mass Education Officer and his assistant arrived in the latter half

of the year, and, after preliminary investigations, a thickly populated section of the tobacco-growing area of the Central Province was chosen as the site of their pilot project. Nyasaland has been honoured by the selection of this as one of the four similar projects throughout the world which is to receive the special attention and support of the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organisation. The team, which includes two African assistants, began work before the end of the year, with the co-operation of the Administration and the local technical officers. Preliminary reports indicate a considerable measure of success; classes in domestic subjects have been organised; programmes of talks and lectures are under way; and local leaders of opinion have founded a Betterment Society entitled *Ukani* ("Wake Up!"). The team maintains contact with other ventures of the same nature, such as the adult literacy campaigns of the Dutch Reformed Church Mission, and there is also provision for liaison with Northern Rhodesia. The project is financed by a grant from the inter-territorial allocation under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

The Protectorate continued to be free from serious epidemic disease, apart from smallpox, which was especially troublesome in the Mzimba District of the Northern Province and the Blantyre, Fort Johnston, and Mlanje Districts of the Southern Province; in the two last-named Districts the disease occurred in a virulent form. It is of interest to note that the northward spread of smallpox stopped abruptly at the southern border of the area affected in 1946, which would indicate the effectiveness of the vaccination campaign undertaken at that time. The venereal disease campaign, financed from a Colonial Development and Welfare grant, continued; difficulty is still experienced in persuading patients to attend long enough to ensure complete cures, but it can at least be said that a large number of sufferers have been rendered non-infective for the time being. The education of public opinion upon this problem is proceeding, and it was encouraging to find one of the Provincial Councils discussing the matter at length and eventually recommending that those infected should be compelled to receive adequate treatment if they did not offer themselves voluntarily.

In other branches of social welfare development goes on, although it must be confessed that the African section of the community has still much to learn of the need for voluntary service in these matters, possibly because so many of the Europeans who give their time in this way appear to the uninformed to do so as part of the work for which they are paid. Nevertheless, some progress is being made, and the erection of Recreation and Welfare Centres at the expense of the Native Development and Welfare Fund will provide local accommodation for existing activities and may encourage the initiation of others. The first of these centres was opened during the year, in Zomba, and is already proving of considerable value to the urban and neighbouring population.

For the first time Nyasaland was represented at an inter-territorial Boy Scout Jamboree, held in Uganda, in the middle of the year. It was only possible to send a small contingent of African Scouts, and the visit involved a round trip, by lorry, of over 3,000 miles. The experience was

not only enjoyable and instructive but also of considerable value to the local movement.

Communications were greatly improved by the operations of the Nyasaland Transport Company, Ltd., which began its bus services in June ; by the end of the year these covered almost every main route in the country. Unfortunately, however, it was difficult, owing to scarcity of labour, supervisory staff, materials and plant, to keep the roads in a reasonable state of repair or to make good the arrears of maintenance caused by the heavy traffic of the war years, when the deficiencies mentioned were even greater. The work of the Public Works Department was, in addition, considerably augmented by the need for repairing the damage caused by the disastrous Zomba flood of December, 1946 ; this task involved reconstruction of the main workshop, the repair or replacement of almost every bridge in the Zomba area, the reconstruction of the capital's water supply system, and the replacement of the 500-ft. bridge over the Shire river on the main road from Blantyre to Southern Rhodesia. The necessary Bailey Bridge parts for this operation did not arrive till late October, but once they were on the site the assembling and launching of the new bridge took only twenty-five hours, although of course much remained to be done to the approaches. The Department was also faced with numerous urgent demands for housing for new Government officers.

One result of the Zomba flood was that the future of the capital came under consideration. A Committee was appointed by the Governor to enquire into the position, and its recommendation, which has now been accepted in principle, was that the headquarters of the Government and most of its Departments should be transferred in due course, as funds permitted, to a site in the area between Blantyre and Limbe, the commercial heart of the Protectorate. A preliminary survey of the proposed site and an investigation of the local water supplies will be undertaken during 1948, in the light of which the matter will be further considered in relation to the Protectorate's financial resources.

In the political field, mention must first be made of discussions carried on during the year regarding the future constitution of the Legislative Council ; these were based on proposals designed to give wider representation and responsibilities to the unofficial section of the community and to provide for the appointment of African members of the Council. It was eventually decided to defer action in this respect until after the African Conference to be held in London in 1948.

The Central African Council met twice during the year ; at the first meeting the new Migrant Labour Agreement, mentioned above, came under discussion. The Council and its Secretariat and Standing Committees continued their work of co-ordinating the activities and policy in many respects of the three territories and its organisation was strengthened by the appointment of a Research Secretary and the foundation of a scientific library. The winding-up of the East African Governors' Conference, and its replacement at the beginning of 1948 by the East Africa High Commission, gave rise to consideration of Nyasaland's position in relation to a number of scientific organisations originally set up under the Conference.

The African Provincial and Protectorate Councils have now taken—and earned—their places as valuable parts of the country's political machinery. Each met twice during the year, and a very wide range of subjects was discussed, covering almost every aspect of native life and activity; Chiefs and commoners worked well together on these Councils, and a genuine spirit of give-and-take characterised the debates. Considerable attention was given to the problems arising from changing conditions of native life as the result of culture-contacts, and a number of suggestions were made regarding alterations in native customary law to meet these changes. There is also a growing sense of financial responsibility, and African leaders are beginning to realise that “the Government” has no bottomless purse on which to draw, but that new or improved services must be paid for by those who will benefit from them. In this connection it may be noted that the Native Treasuries of the Southern Province were federated during the year and that the affairs of the Provincial Native Treasury now receive the attention of a Finance Committee of the African Provincial Council. Most Districts now have Councils of Chiefs and other prominent Africans which deal with matters of common interest, and the Chiefs likewise have their local councils. Action was taken during the year to establish or revive Group Councils within the areas of the various Native Authorities, to improve the liaison between the Native Administrations and the villager, and to further the latter's political education.

The arrival of a number of recruits in the course of the year brought the staff of the Provincial and District Administration up to establishment, and it was possible to re-open, under Assistant District Commissioners, a number of stations which had been closed during the war; this step was welcomed by Chiefs and people. The same conditions made it possible for district travelling to be undertaken on a wider scale than had been practicable for a number of years, and to give closer supervision to the functioning of the Native Administrations and Native Courts. Considerable attention was given to means of relieving officers with field duties of as much routine work as possible and the measures decided upon, including the provision of office managers at busy stations, should have a marked effect upon field work in the future. In the general consideration of problems affecting native administration and local government the Protectorate Government had the great benefit of the advice of Lord Hailey, who visited Nyasaland in the latter part of the year in the course of his study of these matters in the British African territories.

A number of schemes and proposals for development have already been touched upon, and others are mentioned in the appropriate chapters of Part II. There was very considerable activity, both public and private, in this respect during the year, and few possibilities of developing the country's resources can now have escaped attention. Apart from the expansion of the cultivation of economic crops and the broadening of the commercial and industrial background to such activity, great interest was shown in the potentialities of the fisheries of Lake Nyasa and of the Livingstonia coalfield.

In the development of such a country as Nyasaland activities sponsored by the Government must necessarily bulk very large. The overall

post-war development programme, to be undertaken under official auspices, will cost altogether some £6,500,000, of which £2,000,000 will be contributed by the United Kingdom under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act, the balance coming from local funds. The Secretary of State's general approval of this programme was received during 1947, and specific approval has also been received for a number of the detailed schemes, and for grants towards their cost ; the remainder of the schemes were still under consideration in London at the end of the year. In view of the general approval given, a brief summary of the entire programme, whether yet specifically approved or not, follows. Reference is also made elsewhere to several of the individual schemes.

No country can develop properly unless its people are healthy in both mind and body. Considerable stress has therefore been laid in the development programme upon the extension and improvement of the health and education services. The plan for the latter was the first major scheme in Nyasaland under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act to receive approval, and its implementation began in 1945, with a grant for the first five years of £269,000, largely expendable on grants-in-aid towards teachers' and supervisors' salaries, boarding costs, school equipment and scholars' meals. Total expenditure on the ten-year programme is expected to be at least £1,500,000. Other plans of an educational nature are those for the establishment of a Polytechnic for the training of artisans, clerks, and staff for the technical departments of the Government ; the capital cost of this scheme, £76,000, will be met from a Colonial Development and Welfare grant and the recurrent cost will fall on local funds. Instruction, except for Agricultural Assistants, is not expected to begin until 1950. An application for assistance from the Colonial Development and Welfare regional allocation has been made to cover the cost of the Mass Education pilot project described earlier in this chapter.

The Public Health plan involves an expenditure of over £1,000,000, £287,000 of it from Colonial Development and Welfare grants, on the provision of new hospitals and training schools, health units and dispensaries, additional to those already existing, on ambulances and other vehicles, and on the establishment of a new leper settlement. In the last scheme valuable assistance is being given by the British Empire Leprosy Association. Closely associated with this plan is that for African urban housing, towards which a token sum of £150,000 has been allocated from Protectorate funds, and for a considerable augmentation and improvement of rural water supplies. The latter, which will be wholly financed from Colonial Development and Welfare grants, is estimated to cost £199,000 over eight years, and will provide for one heavy and three light drilling units, a dam building unit, the maintenance of completed boreholes, and for the necessary staff ; its effect upon both the health and the economic development of the country is expected to be far-reaching.

"Transport is civilisation," said Kipling. Some £950,000 is to be spent upon the general improvement of Nyasaland's communications, two-thirds of it upon improvements to existing roads and the making of new ones. The improvements will include the tarmacking of a considerable mileage of the country's main roads. Over £300,000 will go to the

improvement of air services, including considerable improvements to the main airport at Chileka, near Blantyre. Towards these two schemes Colonial Development and Welfare grants totalling £550,000 have been approved. Another very necessary programme, to be financed from Protectorate funds, and estimated to cost £175,000, is that for the development of the postal, telegraph, and telephone services; most of the expenditure will be upon improved and extended telecommunications, but provision has also been made for a number of new post office buildings.

Pride of place among the more purely economic schemes is taken by the various plans for agricultural development, expenditure on which will be in the neighbourhood of £400,000; over £360,000 will be covered by Colonial Development and Welfare grants and £161,000 has already been granted. The plan includes schemes for the implementation of a proper land usage policy throughout the country, for general agricultural development, and for the establishment or expansion of research and experimental stations dealing with the problems of tea, tung, and local agriculture in general. A small investigational farm on the Vipya uplands is also included, with the object of trying out under close observation every likely crop and kind of livestock on these hitherto uninhabited and undeveloped high grasslands. The country's livestock also figure in plans for livestock improvement and the establishment of national herds, with the object of grading up African-owned stock throughout the Protectorate; the estimated cost is £68,000, all of which will be met by a grant. In the remaining branch of land usage, namely forestry, provision has been made for the considerable extension of the country's timber resources, by afforestation, research, and improvements in methods of exploitation; towards the afforestation programme a grant of £58,000 has been approved.

As already mentioned, comparatively little detailed information is available about Nyasaland in many of its aspects. The development programme, apart from provision for investigation and research as part of other schemes, provides for two specific schemes designed to remedy part of this lack. £27,000 is to be spent during the next eight years upon the systematic geological mapping of the Protectorate, and some £15,000 will be spent during the next three years upon a hydrological and topographical survey of the Shire River and certain other areas which may be suitable for intensive agricultural development if drainage and irrigation are undertaken. On the information thus obtained it will be possible to take decisions on the question of stabilising the level of Lake Nyasa, on flood control on the Shire, and on the development of large areas at present lying idle and unproductive.

Plans such as those described cannot hope to succeed unless they have a sound administrative basis, and are understood and appreciated by those whom they are designed to benefit. The various programmes include the provision of the necessary administrative staff and premises, and in addition it is proposed to spend some £200,000 from local funds on the improvement and replacement of offices and quarters for the Provincial and District Administration, and on the accommodation of African government staff in general. The Secretariat is also to be expanded by

the very necessary addition of a Public Relations Branch, whose organisation will include mobile information units and the staff and facilities for producing adequate information, both at home and abroad, about the country's activities and plans.

Besides the large schemes mentioned a considerable number of smaller ones of a very varied nature are financed from the Native Development and Welfare Fund, from which, since its inception in 1945, approximately £130,000 has been granted for the carrying out of plans intended to promote the welfare and the social or economic development specifically of the African section of the community. These schemes are largely connected with land usage, some 50 per cent of the grants so far made being for such operations as soil conservation, afforestation, the running of seed farms, and the protection of crops against game. Among the many other purposes for which grants have been made from this Fund are health services, roads, water supplies, the training of blind children, the publication of vernacular literature, and the building of village halls and travellers' rest-houses. Grants from the Fund during 1947 amounted to just over £50,000, of which nearly £15,000 was granted for five three-year soil conservation or land usage schemes in the Central Province. £12,700 was granted to cover the cost of a Protectorate-wide crop protection scheme for one year. The majority of the other grants were for the expansion or continuation of existing schemes, among them the land usage and soil conservation schemes, which are in the nature of pilot projects carried out in the areas where there is the greatest need for the prevention of erosion and the maintenance of fertility. The most important of these is the Livulezi Valley scheme in the Ncheu District, to the destocking aspect of which reference has already been made; the cost of this scheme, including the creation of grazing areas and the establishment of conservation works, is being met by a grant from the Fund.

This survey of a year's work and progress has contained little that is striking and nothing that is spectacular; it is not exciting, but it is far from being depressing. Advances have been made in most directions and much has been done in the finding of men and materials for much greater advances in 1948.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

VITAL statistics are still available only for the European and Asian members of the community. Provision was made in 1945 for the compulsory notification of African births and deaths in 1945, but the receipt of the necessary stationery was long delayed and it was not possible to begin notification until late in 1947, so that statistics of any value will not be available until the end of 1948. The registration of native customary marriages has for some years been required by Native Authority Rules in many parts of the Protectorate, but has not been by any means universal, nor has registration been complete even in the areas in which it exists. Analysis of the estimates of Native Treasury revenue for 1948 from marriage registration fees revealed expected marriage rates ranging from 1 to 33 per 1,000 of live population. It was decided in 1947 that registration of marriages, under Native Authority legislation, should become universal. In these circumstances it is impossible to speak with any accuracy of population trends or problems among the African population. This was estimated at the end of 1947 at about 2,300,000, a figure which is based upon the 1945 census result of 2,044,707, and a normal increase of about 3 per cent per annum. Immigration into the Southern Province from Portuguese East Africa has decreased owing to difficulty of finding fresh cultivable land in that Province and is not thought to affect population as markedly as it has in the past.

The 1945 census was the first to be taken since 1931. All appropriate particulars of non-natives were recorded, but so far as the African population is concerned it claimed to be no more than "a useful and, in the aggregate, a fairly accurate estimate of the African population, based on a count." For example, the age-group 0-1 year could only be enumerated by a count of all children who could not walk and were still carried on their mothers' backs, although most infants are so carried until long after their first birthday. Distribution of other age-groups could only be determined by similar rule-of-thumb methods, and any attempt to draw inferences from such information is fraught with danger, especially when emigration and immigration are almost unknown factors. It can, however, be said that the African population continues to rise steadily. Between 1921 and 1931 it increased by a third, and the 1945 census showed an increase of rather more than a third on the 1931 figures. The estimated African population has therefore nearly doubled in twenty-five years, but a very considerable proportion of this increase must be attributed to immigration into the southern part of the Protectorate from Portuguese East Africa.

In each 100 of the African population there are approximately 51 women to 49 men, but without some knowledge of the number of married men absent from the Protectorate and of the marital state of immigrants it is difficult to draw any conclusions regarding surplus women or the extent to which they are affected by polygamy.

In 1947 some 150,000 men were estimated to be absent from the Protectorate. They are mainly employed in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa, and the great majority remain in touch with their homes and will return to them, at least for a holiday, within three years of their departure. The projected Migrant Labour Agreement between the Central African territories is designed to achieve, among other ends, the return of migrant labourers to their homes after absences of not more than two years. Some degree of encouragement is now given to the migrant to take his family with him or to send for them after he has settled down at his destination.

As regards the non-indigenous sections of the population, both European and Asiatic groups are increasing. The former had grown from 314 in 1901 to 1,975 in 1931, and to 2,046 at the end of 1946. The Registrar-General's returns for 1947 are not yet available, but immigration returns for the year show that there were 409 Europeans described as "new arrivals." Allowing for an excess of births over deaths the European population is therefore now approximately 2,500, of whom about 1,400 are males and 1,100 are females. The majority are between twenty and sixty years of age, as might be expected in a country which, until recently, most Europeans leave on retiring from active business. It may be noted, however, that an increasing number of Europeans are remaining in Nyasaland on retirement. Of those gainfully employed, roughly a quarter each are employed by Government, in missionary service, and in agriculture, to which almost all other employments may be regarded as ancillary. The comparatively large number of immigrants is due partly to overdue recruitment of staffs diminished during the war years and partly to the very considerable expansion of the activities of both Government and private commercial concerns, the establishment of the Nyasaland Transport Company alone being responsible for an appreciable addition to the European population.

The Asian population numbered 520 in 1921, 1,573 in 1931 (of whom only one in seven was female), and 2,804 in 1945. Immigration and a birth rate of 71 per 1,000 in 1946 resulted in an increase to 3,136 in 1946. It is estimated that the 1947 figure is between 3,500 and 3,600, more than a third of whom are Nyasaland born. Of the total approximately 2,200 are males and 1,300 are females. There were 275 "new arrivals" during the year, of whom 170 were females. Most of the men are engaged in trading and store-keeping.

There is also a small group of mixed blood, Euro-African and Indo-African. Since many of these are included in the African census returns it is impossible to give figures of any accuracy, but the total is about 2,000, of whom rather more than half are under marriageable age; about a third follow a European mode of life. The men are mainly engaged in trading, transport and agriculture. A number of the women obtain employment as children's nurses.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages, Labour Organisation

Nyasaland is basically an agricultural country, with an economy based on primary production and the preliminary processing of certain of its products. Almost all workers in paid employment retain a right to a customary holding of land somewhere in the country and they expect to derive a proportion of their food from that holding and to retire to it in due course.

No statistics are available of the numbers employed in subsistence agriculture. The approximate numbers engaged in producing tobacco and cotton on Native Trust Land in 1947 were 89,000 and 35,000 respectively, but this production is largely a family affair, so that it is also necessary to take into account the labour of wives and other relations in addition to the above figures. The European tobacco industry gave seasonal employment to some 20,000 Africans on field work, and a further 5,600 were employed in the tobacco factories at the peak period. The tea industry, which is entirely in European hands, employs about 30,000 Africans, of whom the majority are engaged on field work. Other large groups known to be in paid employment are those in domestic service (nearly all male) who, with the post-war influx of Europeans, have risen from 7,700 in 1946 to an estimated total of 9,000, those employed by the Public Works Department, 5,800, and the 4,800 employees of the Nyasaland Railways. (The last figure represents a reduction of 1,200 on the 1946 figure, which is thought to have included a number of natives employed in Portuguese territory.)

Nyasaland has for many years supplied a considerable number of workers to the other territories of Southern, Central and Eastern Africa, where the Nyasa (to give him the name by which he is generally known abroad) ranges in his employment from unskilled labour to the occupation of posts as high as his training and local conditions will permit. In 1947 it was estimated that the number of Africans absent from the Protectorate and employed or in search of employment in other territories totalled some 150,000, those in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia numbering 50,000 and 84,000 respectively. Reference has already been made in Part I to the measures being taken by the three Central African territories to deal with the problems of migrant labour as between these territories, and to the discussions with the Union of South Africa which took place during the year.

There was no change in the Witwatersrand Native Labour Association's quota of Nyasaland employees, which permits the Association to have under contract for mining employment on the Rand a maximum of 12,750 Nyasas at any one time; the Association recruited 9,800 men during the year. Eighty-four Governor's Permits to recruit labour for Southern Rhodesia were in operation during the year, covering a potential recruitment of over 8,000 men, but only 3,200 were actually recruited. This system of recruiting is now coming to an end with the grant of

exclusive recruiting rights for Southern Rhodesia to the Rhodesia Native Labour Supply Commission, an organisation sponsored by the Southern Rhodesian Government. The Commission was granted a quota of 10,000 recruits for 1948, but this, and the recruiting permit itself, will be subject to annual review. This arrangement does not debar the emigrant from proceeding to Rhodesia on his own account. Nyasaland retains a considerable degree of responsibility for those of its people who proceed to other territories, and the Protectorate Government maintains representatives, both experienced officers of the Administration, in Johannesburg and Salisbury. These officers were fully occupied throughout the year in dealing with the great variety of problems presented by the migration of Nyasaland labour and in visiting centres where emigrants were employed. Another and very valuable link between the emigrant and his home is provided by the missionary societies, who keep in touch with their emigrant adherents and who maintain, with assistance from public funds, two labour chaplains, one of whom is a Roman Catholic. These chaplains travel widely and in addition to meeting the spiritual needs of the migrant do much good work in helping to maintain family ties with his relatives at home. They also provide useful information to the Protectorate Government on labour conditions generally and upon specific problems affecting the migrant.

Generally, there is still a noticeable shortage of labour within the Protectorate, more particularly in the south, and several planters have been faced with the necessity of reducing their acreage under cultivation. The Public Works Department found considerable difficulty in obtaining its needs, especially for urgent tasks such as the replacement of the Kambalame Bridge on the Shire River, washed away in the 1946 floods. This shortage does not appear to be attributable to dissatisfaction with wages or conditions of labour, but is regarded as principally due to the lack of incentives. Large sums of money derived from the sale of produce and from military employment are in African hands, and there is still an insufficient supply of consumer goods to absorb them. In any case, however, it does not appear that there is any considerable pool of fit male labour not usually employed either on its own business or for wages within or without the country. This problem will become steadily more acute as the Central African territories develop, and the remedies appear to lie in the more efficient functioning and use of available labour and the replacement of manual labour by machinery where possible.

The hours worked in paid agricultural employment average thirty a week in field work, where the task system is commonly used, but may be as low as eighteen. The ordinary African labourer in his own country, with responsibilities towards his home and his own crops, does not usually want to work longer hours for any financial inducement. He will, however, give considerably more work for higher wages in other territories. Nevertheless certain employers who offer overtime to their regular workers to make up for the absenteeism of others find that about 25 per cent of them, on the tea estates, can double or more than double their basic monthly wage.

The Public Works Department is unable to maintain constant European

supervision and is therefore not normally in a position to give piecework. The labourer works a forty-five hour week and usually returns to his home in the afternoons. Factory workers, who are mostly seasonal employees, work a forty-eight to fifty-hour week, slightly more in rush periods, much less at slack times. Their European supervisors, like those engaged in the production of flue-cured tobacco, must often work a night shift as well as a day shift during the busy season. Domestic servants have on the whole a fairly easy time, owing to the system of specialisation imported into the country in the early days from India. They rarely take regular time off, but content themselves with a holiday when their employer is doing likewise.

The cost of living has risen considerably for all classes since the beginning of the late war. The absence of adequate statistical machinery makes the compilation of accurate indices impracticable but, taking the figure for both groups on 1 September 1939, as 100, it is thought that the European index figure at the end of 1947 was about 170 and that for the lower African wage group about 140-150. So far as government servants are concerned, these conditions continued to be met by cost of living allowances pending the introduction of new salary scales consequent on an investigation by a Salaries Commission in 1947. The Commission's recommendations regarding Africans were received during the year; those regarding Europeans were still awaited. Unskilled African labour in the Southern Province was granted an increase of half a crown in its minimum wage, from 10s. to 12s. 6d. (exclusive of food allowance) on the recommendation of the Provincial Minimum Wage Board.

The wage structure of the Protectorate remains simple, and no machinery other than the establishment of Provincial Minimum Wage Boards has yet been necessary. There are as yet no national standards for tradesmen and consequently it has not been practicable to lay down minimum wages for skilled and semi-skilled labour. Monthly wage rates for specific employments rose during the year in many cases; specimen rates, inclusive of food allowance, were:

Tea

Field Labour	.	.	.	.	.	20s.
Overseers	.	.	.	.	.	30s. to 35s.
Skilled Factory Labour	.	.	.	.	.	23s.

Tobacco

Field Labour	.	.	.	.	.	16s. to 18s.
Overseers	.	.	.	.	.	27s. to 30s.
Factory Labour	.	.	.	.	.	25s. to 30s.

Public Works Department

Labourers	.	.	.	.	.	14s. to 17s.
Artisans	.	.	.	.	.	30s. to 150s.

Railways

Labourers	.	.	.	.	.	22s.
Artisans	.	.	.	.	.	30s. to 150s.

In addition to the above, bonuses are paid in both the tea and tobacco industries and an increased cost of living allowance of 5s. a month is paid to railway employees living in Blantyre and Limbe. The junior grades of domestic servants receive 15s. to 17s. a month and the senior grades such as cooks and head boys 25s. to 40s., usually with quarters, fuel, and an issue of clothing.

The staff of the Labour Department, including the Nyasaland Government Representatives in Salisbury and Johannesburg, comprised seven Europeans and thirty-nine Africans at the end of the year. A Labour Officer for the Southern Province was appointed towards the end of the year, but it remains impracticable to fill the vacant post of Labour Officer, Central Province. An African labour clerk is stationed at all District headquarters; his principal duty is the issue and recording of Certificates of Identity for those who wish to go abroad.

Thirteen Registry Offices were opened during 1946, but it was found that local conditions and the current shortage of labour encouraged direct contact between potential employer and employee, and five of these offices were therefore closed in 1947 as unnecessary.

As yet there are no trade unions, possibly partly because comparatively few persons are permanently in paid employment; there are, however, indications that the African Drivers Association, which has affiliations in the Rhodesias, may soon seek registration.

There has been little active evidence of any discontent among workers. In the few cases where there has been a stoppage of work, or a threatened stoppage, these have usually been the result of poor liaison between employers and employed. Failure on the one side fully to explain changes in an established system and on the other fully to comprehend the significance of these changes led to several instances of friction, of which the two most important were a threatened strike by the employees of the Nyasaland Railways and a stoppage of work by the electricians on a tea estate. In both cases official mediation, in one by the Labour Commissioner and in the other by the District Commissioner, and proper explanation and discussion of the changes led to a satisfactory solution of the problem, the threatened strike being averted in the first case and the men, with the exception of some half a dozen, returning to work in the second.

Factories legislation continued to operate smoothly. Eleven accidents were reported during the year, but none of these caused any loss of life and only three resulted in permanent injury. These may be described as normal industrial hazards; the most serious injury, which involved the loss of an arm, was due to neglect of safety precautions on the part of the man injured.

The only new labour legislation passed during the year was the Trade Unions and Trade Disputes (Amendment) Ordinance, which amended the Ordinance of 1944 by deleting the definitions of "to intimidate" and "injury," thus bringing the local law more closely into line with that of the United Kingdom. Consideration was given to the amendment of the Native Labour Ordinance, 1944, so as to remove all penal sanctions for breaches of contract, and to implement the new Inter-territorial Migrant

Labour Agreement, which is referred to at length in Part I. The necessary Bill had not, however, reached the Legislature by the end of the year.

There is no legislative provision for insurance against sickness or for old age pensions, but all employers of African labour are required to provide medical attention for sick employees. A number of commercial concerns have their own dispensaries. In cases where long service has been given many employers voluntarily arrange either for the payment of small pensions or of gratuities on retirement. Arrangements for the periodical payment of such pensions can be made through the Post Office Savings Bank. It should be noted in this connection that the majority of the African community continue to regard the care and maintenance of the elderly as a family duty. Exemptions from native tax are granted to both elderly and infirm male Africans who are without means to pay, and provision is annually made in the Protectorate Estimates for the relief of necessitous cases irrespective of race.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

The Protectorate's financial year ends on 31st December, and it is therefore impracticable to give complete figures for 1947. A revised estimate only is therefore given. Comparative total figures are :

	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	£	£
1944 (Actual)	1,029,283	1,032,195
1945 (Actual)	1,916,205	1,771,184
1946 (Actual)	1,287,080	1,136,884
1947 (Revised Estimate)	1,499,951	1,395,749

The main heads of revenue and expenditure are as follows :

REVENUE	<i>Actual</i> 1944 £	<i>Actual</i> 1945 £	<i>Actual</i> 1946 £	<i>Revised</i> <i>Estimates</i> 1947 £
Customs	198,427	212,351	295,392	371,300
Taxes, Licences, etc.	485,099	476,755	525,196	628,970
Fees of Court, etc.	27,004	33,162	33,340	38,783
Posts and Telegraphs	46,995	123,312	64,461	60,350
Rents	3,970	3,892	4,350	4,050
Interest Part (1)	3,311	3,889	6,067	6,749
Miscellaneous	41,432	54,257	52,337	60,876
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund	6,543	6,230	7,976	9,920
Land Sales	—	—	—	—
Total Ordinary Revenue	£812,781	£913,848	£989,119	£1,180,998
Colonial Development and Welfare Act Grants	3,779	22,117	75,691	83,147
Interest Part (2)	212,723	190,687	189,314	202,850
Trans-Zambesia Railway Guaranteed Loan Grant	—	773,000	—	—
Trans-Zambesia Railway Debenture Interest	—	16,553	32,956	32,956
Total Revenue	£1,029,283	£1,916,205	£1,287,080	£1,499,951

EXPENDITURE

	£	£	£	£
Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary	58,983	72,701	90,361	128,151
Education	36,096	79,827	94,432	113,026
Medical	69,999	72,997	91,113	115,918
Provincial and District Administration	45,845	49,618	66,017	74,563
Public Works Department	111,744	153,090	177,756	234,735
Public Debt Charges	209,900	203,023	203,022	215,190
War Services	30,560	31,003	24,532	20,292
Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee	15,159	773,000	—	—
Other Services	453,909	335,925	389,651	493,874
Total Expenditure	<u>£1,032,195</u>	<u>£1,771,184</u>	<u>£1,136,884</u>	<u>£1,395,749</u>

The public debt amounts to £3,775,053 11s. 6d. made up as follows :

<i>Public Debt</i>	£	s.	d.
East African Protectorate 4% Loan	4,220	11	3
East African Protectorate 6% Loan	20,033	0	3
Redemption of Shire Highlands Rly. Subsidy Lands	180,800	0	0
East African Guaranteed Loan 4½% 1952-72	2,000,000	0	0
East African Guaranteed Loan 3% 1954-74	1,570,000	0	0

Description of the main heads of taxation and the yield of each :

	<i>Actual</i> 1944 £	<i>Actual</i> 1945 £	<i>Actual</i> 1946 £	<i>Revised</i> <i>Estimates</i> 1947 £
Fines	3,027	2,209	4,218	3,000
Native Tax	177,331	175,645	191,326	191,000
Income Tax	257,728	250,244	256,346	350,000
Non-Native Poll Tax	8,586	9,020	9,818	10,250
Land Tax	3,679	2,349	2,917	2,400
Crown Lands Cotton Tax	943	1	786	750
Estate Duties	1,754	2,869	19,809	30,000
LICENCES				
Arms and Ammunition	326	331	347	400
Bankers	120	120	120	120
Bicycles	2,905	2,482	2,944	3,000
Game	173	186	309	300
Liquor	760	756	847	850
Miscellaneous	284	303	416	400
Motor Vehicles	6,126	6,422	8,163	8,500
Trading	18,139	20,347	21,561	21,000
Other Stamp Duties	3,218	3,471	5,269	7,000
TOTAL	<u>£485,099</u>	<u>476,755</u>	<u>525,196</u>	<u>628,970</u>

Nyasaland, being within the region covered by the Congo Basin Treaties and the Convention of St. Germain-en-Laye, 1919, may not grant preferential treatment to any country, and its customs tariff applies equally to imports from all nations. A number of alterations were made to the tariff towards the end of 1947, following upon the recommendations of the Fiscal Survey. The most important was the raising of the duties on certain textiles, that on cotton piece-goods being increased from 2d. to 4d. or from 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ d. to 3d. per linear yard, depending on type. This increase in the duty on goods mainly for the native market was intended to spread the burden of taxation more fairly, the average contribution to revenue having altered considerably during the war years in favour of the African.

Most duties are levied *ad valorem*, but there are specific duties on certain goods such as cotton manufactures, liquor, tobacco and cigarettes, matches, motor vehicles, bicycles, petrol and fuel oils, and sugar. When a duty is *ad valorem* it is levied on goods imported from overseas on the c.i.f. value at Beira, provided that this is not less than the cost of the goods to the importer on board ship at the place of shipment plus 10 per cent. Goods imported from contiguous territories are valued at the cost to the importer at the place of dispatch, and in the case of those coming from South and East Africa the value is taken as the cost at the place of purchase plus 10 per cent. Among the *ad valorem* duties are :

Boots and Shoes	10%
Aerated Waters and Fruit Cordials	20%
Electrical Appliances	25%
Earthenware, Chinaware, and Glassware	25%
Metal Manufactures	25%
Silk	25%
Perfumery and Toilet Preparations	50%

Some specific duties are :

Handkerchiefs	1s. per dozen
Cotton piece-goods	4d. or 3d. per linear yard
Cigarettes	12s. per lb.
Gin, brandy and rum	£4 per proof gallon
Whisky	£3 4s. per proof gallon
Bicycles	15s. each
Motor vehicles, private	25s. to 45s. per h.p., depending on h.p.
Motor vehicles, commercial	Over 30 cwt., 5s. per cwt. Under 30 cwt., 25s. per cwt.

Among articles accorded free entry are : building materials, agricultural and industrial implements and machinery, sanitary ware, plant for water and electricity installations, mosquito netting, farm tractors, and ships, launches, boats, and parts for these. *Bona fide* personal baggage is also free of duty.

No export duties are levied, but cesses are applied to exports of tea (10d. per 100 lb. or part thereof), tobacco (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per 100 lb. or part thereof), and tung-oil (£2 10s. per long ton or part thereof). The proceeds are

STATEMENT OF ASSETS AND

LIABILITIES			£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
DEPOSITS :								
Administrator General	.	.	16,207	2	9			
Official Receiver	.	.	176	4	1			
C.D. and Welfare Grants (a)	.	.	2,611	15	2			
Guaranteed Loan Grant in aid (b)	.	.						
Miscellaneous	.	.	30,612	15	0			
						49,607	17	0
SPECIAL FUNDS—								
Bankruptcy Contingency Fund	.	.	54	9	11			
Custodian of Enemy Property	.	.	15,161	2	9			
Ewing Bequest Library Fund	.	.	1,097	4	11			
Fines Fund	.	.	307	8	8			
Interest Free Loans	.	.	8,400	0	0			
Native Authorities' Dipping Fund	.	.	1,218	8	1			
Native Development and Welfare Fund	.	.	256,442	14	2			
Ruarwe Trust Fund	.	.	574	14	9			
A. J. Storey Memorial Fund	.	.	361	14	2			
Tea Cess Fund	.	.	1,654	4	10			
Tobacco Cess Fund	.	.	3,744	3	0			
Tung Cess Fund	.	.	33	14	7			
						289,049	19	10
POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK	.	.				317,600	8	1
WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES	.	.				62,409	0	0
WIDOWS' AND ORPHANS' PENSION FUND	.	.				34,078	17	1
E. A. GUARANTEED LOAN, UNEXPENDED BALANCE	.	.				459,577	9	0
GUARANTEED LOAN INVESTMENT ACCOUNT	.	.				54,081	5	0
WAR SURPLUS RESERVE ACCOUNT	.	.				635,000	0	0
POST-WAR CREDITS RESERVE ACCOUNT	.	.				2,886	2	4
GENERAL REVENUE BALANCE at 1.1.1947	.	.	401,594	8	8			
Surplus and Deficit Account	.	.	210,350	17	7			
						611,945	6	3
GENERAL LIABILITIES :								
IMPERIAL LOAN TO MEET 1914/18 WAR								
EXPENDITURE :			£	s.	d.			
Local	.	.	42,000	0	0			
War Office Loan	.	.	55,499	7	5			
			£97,499	7	5			
						TOTAL	£2,516,236	4 7

NOTE.—(c) The following stocks and shares not included in the statement of assets are held by the Crown Agents for the Colonies on behalf of Government in respect of :

- (i) the Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee—
£150,000 Ordinary £1 Shares Trans-Zambesia Railway Coy.
£767,099 8s. 8d. 3½% First Mortgage Debenture Stock.
- (ii) Loan Funds—
£800,287 Nyasaland Railways 5% " B " Income Debenture Stock.
£48,350 Nyasaland Railways 5% " C " Income Debenture Stock.
£1,958,387 Nyasaland Railways 5% Bridge Debenture Stock.

LIABILITIES AT 31ST OCTOBER, 1947

	ASSETS	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
ADVANCES					297,846	0	11
WAR OFFICE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT					4,932	0	1
IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT—							
INTEREST FREE LOAN : PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTIONS					8,400	0	0
INTEREST FREE LOAN : GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS					635,000	0	0
WAR SAVINGS CERTIFICATES					62,138	5	0
INVESTMENTS (c)							
Administrator-General		681	18	6			
Surplus Funds		160,763	7	11			
Custodian of Enemy Property		11,841	10	9			
Post Office Savings Bank		314,632	17	2			
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund		34,028	15	3			
East Africa Guaranteed Loan		54,081	5	0			
Ewing Bequest Library Fund		1,097	4	11			
Reserve Trust Fund		574	14	9			
A. J. Storey Memorial Fund		361	14	2			
Tobacco Cess Fund		1,500	0	0			
Native Development and Welfare Fund		186,183	3	1			
					765,746	11	6
IMPRESTS					10,993	10	0
JOINT COLONIAL FUND					513,000	0	0
REMITTANCES					59,595	2	5
CASH ACCOUNT (d)					158,584	14	8

£2,516,236 4 7

£185,572 11s. 4d. Trans-Zambesia Railway Guaranteed First Mortgage Debentures.

(a) A sum of £43,994 4s. 2d. is due under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

(b) A sum of £42,706 2s. 1d. is due from the Imperial Government in respect of Grant-in-Aid Guaranteed Loan.

(d) CASH :

	£	s.	d.	
In Treasury and at Bank	90,990	10	9	
With Agencies	771	11	4	Dr.
With Stations and Sub-Accountants	68,365	15	3	
	£158,584	14	8	

credited to separate funds and are devoted to the development and benefit of the tea, tobacco and tung industries through the medium of the Tea Association, the Tobacco Association, and the Tung Board.

The only excise duty so far imposed is that on tobacco and cigarettes, amounting to $\frac{1}{5}d.$ on penny packets containing eight cigarettes, $1d.$ on threepenny packets of 2 ounces of tobacco, and otherwise at $4\frac{1}{2}d.$ per 2 ounces, with a variable rate on cigarettes; this duty was imposed early in 1947 and the revised estimate of the yield for the year was £31,300.

Stamp duties are payable on the usual documents; the revised estimate of yield from these for 1947 was £7,000, compared with actual receipts of £5,269 in 1946, £3,471 in 1945 and £3,218 in 1944.

A non-native poll tax is payable by all non-native males over eighteen resident in the Protectorate, except visitors; this exception includes persons in the country temporarily for business purposes. The amount due from all persons affected who are in residence on 1st January, or who enter the Protectorate up to 30th June is £4; those entering between 1st July and 31st December pay £2 only for the year of entry. Any person failing to pay this tax within three months of becoming liable must pay a penalty equal to the tax due, in addition to the tax. The tax is allowed as a deduction for the calendar year in which an Income Tax assessment year begins. The estimated yield for 1947 was £10,250, compared with an actual revenue of £9,818 for 1946, £9,020 for 1945, and £8,586 for 1944.

A poll tax is payable by all male natives resident in Nyasaland and over the apparent age of eighteen. No native is liable to pay in respect of more than one residence and exceptions may be granted to the aged or infirm, if without means, to immigrant natives living on a private estate with the owner's permission, provided they do not remain in the country for more than twelve continuous months, and to *bona fide* native visitors not employed or seeking employment within the country and not remaining in it for longer than three continuous months. The Governor possesses certain additional powers of exemption. The rate of tax is prescribed by the Governor-in-Council under the Native Tax Ordinance of 1939 and is variable. In 1947 the rate varied from 9s. in the richer areas to 7s. in the poorer ones. By agreement with the Governments of Southern and Northern Rhodesia 7s. 6d. is credited to Nyasaland in respect of each Rhodesian tax paid by a native of Nyasaland origin. The Native Treasuries receive 1s. for every tax paid in or credited to their respective areas; this forms by far the largest single item of their revenue.* The tax is collected by native tax collectors working under the direction of the Native Authorities and the general control of the District Commissioners. The estimated yield for 1947 was £191,000 compared with an actual revenue of £191,326 for 1946, £175,645 for 1945, and £177,331 for 1944.

As regards income tax imposed on individual incomes, the personal allowance granted to a married man is £450 and that for a single person is £225.

* For 1948, the native tax was raised to a flat rate of 10s. throughout the Protectorate (except for two small islands in Lake Nyasa) and the Native Treasuries will receive 2s. for every tax collected.

The following table shows the income tax (including surtax, which is charged under the same Ordinance and in the same assessment) payable for 1947-8 by individuals in three different categories at varying income levels.

<i>Income</i>	<i>Single Person</i>			<i>Married Man</i>			<i>Married with 2 Children</i>		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
200	—			—			—		
300	0	13	9	—			—		
400	6	18	9	—			—		
500	16	0	0	—			—		
600	26	0	0	5	7	6	—		
700	38	16	3	13	10	0	—		
800	52	11	3	23	10	0	2	17	6
900	70	1	3	35	7	6	9	10	0
1,000	88	16	3	49	2	6	19	10	0
1,500	193	10	0	140	7	6	96	7	6
2,000	335	15	9	265	7	6	202	5	0
3,000	671	12	6	587	5	0	506	15	0
5,000	1,499	2	6	1,392	5	0	1,287	15	0
7,500	2,731	0	0	2,618	10	0	2,498	10	0
10,000	4,140	7	6	3,999	15	0	3,861	12	6
*29,726	17,469	4	6						
*29,951				17,469	4	6			
*30,190							17,469	4	6

Income tax on companies, local or otherwise, is at a flat rate of 7s. 6d. in the £.

During 1946 the depreciation allowances in respect of machinery, agricultural and industrial buildings and native housing were considerably extended (The Income Tax (Deductions) Rules, 1946) broadly on the lines of the United Kingdom Income Tax Act, 1945, in principle though with greater percentage allowances. In addition it has been provided that the cost of clearing new land for agricultural use and certain expenditure on research and experiments, may be allowed as a deduction in calculating taxable profit. The benefits under these heads apply to individuals and companies alike.

The revised estimate of revenue from income tax for 1947 was £350,000 compared with actual receipts of £256,346 in 1946, £250,000 in 1945, and £258,000 for 1944.

Up to 1945, estate duty in Nyasaland was charged as a "fee" before the grant of probate or letters of administration. Early in 1946, however, an Estate Duty Ordinance was enacted on the general lines of those existing in the neighbouring territories but following the system in the United Kingdom of making chargeable with duty all property in the Protectorate and all property situate outside the Protectorate of persons

* These are the points at which maximum income tax and surtax becomes payable (*i.e.* 14s. 6d. in the £). In all the above figures a deduction of £4 has been made for non-native poll tax set off.

domiciled in it. This was an important provision because persons of means permanently resident in the Protectorate have been accustomed to invest considerable sums in United Kingdom or South African securities. Considerable sums have thus been collected as duty since 1946. "Double duty" in the Protectorate and the United Kingdom or other British possessions with reciprocal legislation is not payable. There is no charge resembling legacy or succession duty. Provision is made for remission in the case of small estates falling to near relatives and cases in which death was caused by war injuries and occurred within three years of those injuries. Estates not exceeding £100 are exempt. Examples of charges are as follows:

Estates exceeding	£100 but not exceeding	£500	..	£1 per cent.
"	"	£1,000	" "	" £5,000
"	"	£25,000	" "	" £30,000
"	"	£100,000	" "	" £120,000
				.. £3 per cent.
				.. £10 per cent.
				.. £20 per cent.

The yield for 1947 was £26,345 compared with £19,809 for 1946, £2,869 for 1945, and £1,754 for 1944. Collection is the duty of the Lands Officer as Secretary to the Estate Duty Commissioners.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

Nyasaland is a member of the Southern Rhodesian Currency Board, whose notes, in denominations of £5, £1, 10s. and 5s., and silver and cupro-nickel coins are legal tender, as is the coinage of the United Kingdom. At 31st December, 1947, the amount of Southern Rhodesian currency on issue to Nyasaland amounted to £1,710,882. During the year some £367,000 of silver was repatriated, following upon the introduction of cupro-nickel coins of the higher denominations.

A considerable amount of currency continues to be retained in African hands, no doubt largely under hut floors. There has been an increase in supplies of consumer goods, but these are still insufficient to absorb current spending power. The facilities offered by the Post Office Savings Bank are being extended—three new offices were opened during the year—and it receives steadily growing deposits. Opportunities for investment in co-operative societies are now becoming available, but it will be some time before either form of safe keeping becomes really popular or widespread.

Two commercial banks, the Standard Bank of South Africa and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) operate in the Protectorate. The former has four branches, at Zomba, Blantyre, Limbe, and Lilongwe, and the latter two, at Blantyre and Limbe. The Post Office Savings Bank has thirty-five branches, and deposits amounted to £295,000 at the end of 1947, compared with £270,000 at the end of 1946; there were 11,304 depositors, compared with 10,352 in 1946.

Chapter 5: Commerce

The revival of trade which began in the second half of 1946 gained much ground during 1947 but, although imports in a number of classes for European and African trade exceeded those of pre-war levels, there is still no indication that saturation point is in sight. The ready expendability of sterling in almost all currency areas opened up alternative sources of supply and afforded export facilities of which full advantage was taken by local merchants. The annually decreasing quota of cotton piece-goods from India was supplemented by imports from America, and necessary motor vehicle replacements, impossible during the war years, were made from the same source. Continental suppliers helped to meet Nyasaland's unsatisfied demands for textiles and iron and steel manufactures. Japan, too, made a useful contribution of cotton piece-goods and Southern Rhodesia provided cotton manufactures from local textile factories and also helped in building materials. Yet, even with increased general imports from the United Kingdom, there is still an unsatisfied gap in the Protectorate's requirements of materials necessary to implement building and other schemes.

The combined value of imports and exports, excluding Government imports and specie, rose from £4,365,000 in 1946 to £6,274,000 in 1947, an increase of 42 per cent. Imports were valued at £3,513,000 against £2,000,000 in 1946, and exports, including re-exports, at £2,761,000 against £2,365,000; there was, nevertheless, a decrease of 8 per cent in the weight of exports. The figures as a whole reflect further increases in prices, while the adverse balance of trade which they reveal is due on the one side to part of the war-time backlog of imports being worked off and on the other to a number of factors of which the congestion prevailing at the port of Beira was not the least important.

In general, imports showed increases in the quantity and value of almost every category. A number of items under "Food, Drink and Tobacco" increased by roughly 100 per cent, although in this category both sugar and salt, the latter an important commodity in native trade, showed decreases on 1946 imports. Among manufactured articles, the value of cotton goods imported rose from £740,000 in 1946 to £1,728,000 in 1947, an increase of 133 per cent; the quantity of cotton piece-goods imported increased from 8,800,000 yards to 16,500,000 yards. The value of woollen imports was nearly doubled, rising from £18,000 to £28,000; that of miscellaneous wearing apparel was more than doubled, rising from £32,000 to £67,000. Outside this group, the majority of items reflected the increased availability of goods supply of which had been restricted by war-time conditions. The most notable increase was in vehicles and their parts, the value of which rose from £167,000 in 1946 to £489,000 in 1947. The increase in the import of leather and its manufactures, remarked upon in the 1946 Report, was not maintained, and the value of these imports dropped by nearly 50 per cent from £35,000 to £18,000. The only marked decline in the whole of the manufactured group, however, was in railway rolling stock and materials, from £61,000 to £11,000, but this merely

reflects the fulfilment of orders in 1946. An indication of returning normality is to be seen in the increase of over 20 per cent in the value of imports through the post, from £73,000 to £89,000.

Among exports, there were numerous marked alterations from the 1946 record. The total quantity of all types of tobacco exported increased by 13 per cent, to over 10,000 tons. All items in this category showed considerable increases except flue-cured tobacco, which decreased slightly although the value of the quantity exported increased considerably, and scrap, the export of which almost ceased. Related to the small amount of scrap available is the almost complete disappearance of nicotine sulphate from the export returns. A number of foodstuff exports declined sharply, partly due to the conditions mentioned at the beginning of this chapter and because of shortfalls in production, but also, in the case of native foodstuffs, to increased local consumption. Tea exports, one of the mainstays of the Protectorate's commerce, fell by nearly 500 tons to 6,470 tons owing to a combination of unfavourable weather, inadequate labour, and shortage of fertilisers. Exports of beans dropped by nearly half, from 2,188 tons to 1,203 tons, and those of groundnuts fell from 1,550 tons to just over 400 tons. The latter reduction was partly compensated for by an increase of 276 tons in the exports of animal feeding stuffs, mainly groundnut cake. Rice exports, on the other hand, increased considerably, from 332 tons to 572 tons.

Other products of the soil also showed decreases in quantity, although not always in value. Lint cotton, for example, showed a decrease of 62 tons in the quantity exported, from 1,914 tons to 1,852 tons, but the value increased by £63,000, from £126,000 to £189,000. Increases in both quantity and value were shown for soya beans and rubber; exports of the former rose from 750 tons to 810 tons, with an increase in value from £9,800 to £10,650, and of the latter from 39 tons to 85 tons, the value increasing from £4,377 to £9,054. Exports of tung oil dropped by nearly 40 tons, from 118 tons to 78 tons, with a corresponding decrease in value from £25,300 to £16,500. Among manufactured articles there were general decreases in both the value and the quantity of exports, although the only one of any note was in tea, tobacco, and rubber shooks, where the quantity exported was only slightly more than half that for 1946.

This picture of the commercial situation in 1946 is only superficially depressing, apart from the very real decline in tea. It does not, for the reasons already given, fully reflect the production and trade position. Furthermore, while congestion at Beira and on the railway interfered with export, there were also considerable internal transport difficulties which prevented a proportion of the 1947 production leaving the country during the year, an example being the delays involved, owing to the loss of the steamer *Vipya* in 1946 and the small capacity of the remainder of the railway fleet, in bringing much of the lake-shore rice crop to railhead. The chapter which follows, on production during the year, sets out the real position. There is no difficulty in selling all that Nyasaland can grow for export, and the country's capabilities in this respect are many. The difficulty lies in inadequate transport facilities to the world's markets.

Internal trade continued to be good, and local companies report reasonable returns. There was no sign of any slackening in the demand for natives' trading licences, although many of the shops thus established must be ephemeral and there are few of this class of trader who have either the ability or the good fortune to rise to the control of small chains of village stores, though these are not unknown. The appearance of consumers' co-operatives, to which further reference is made in the next chapter, may have a marked effect on this class of trader as well as on his Indian competitor. The services of skilled craftsmen continued to be in demand and, with the requirements of general development, it will be a number of years before the country's needs in this respect are likely to be adequately met.

So far, secondary industry remains almost confined to the manufacture of soap, cigarettes, and pipe tobacco, and sisal rope and twine, although the solution to some of the country's major economic and social problems must lie in this direction. A number of proposals for the establishment of new enterprises were made and discussed during the year, and some of these are mentioned in the appropriate chapters of this Report. The tobacco manufacturers had an output, almost entirely from local materials, of about 160 tons of cigarettes and pipe tobacco. The imposition of an excise duty early in 1947 resulted in the price of cigarettes for the African market rising from ten a penny to eight a penny and the price of those for the non-native consumer from 1s. 6d. to 2s. for fifty. The soap and rope factories found no difficulty in disposing of their products.

During the year one public company and ten private companies were incorporated. The public company was the Nyasaland Transport Company, Ltd., with a capital of £100,000, which operates an omnibus and transport undertaking. Its service had been extended over most of the main roads of the Protectorate by the end of the year. Of the private companies, seven were connected in one form or another with agriculture.

Chapter 6: Production

Thus far it has never been necessary for Nyasaland to resort to the importation of staple foodstuffs for its indigenous population, and the great bulk of imported food is for the use of non-natives. However, the demands of a steadily increasing population upon a soil of dwindling fertility are leading to the possibility of serious deficiencies and strong action is being taken to improve production and distribution. Soil conservation measures, agricultural education, the introduction of new strains, and the initiation of experiments in mechanised group farming all received attention during the year. The Maize Control Board, established in 1946 to effect the equitable distribution of all surplus maize, was faced with a particularly difficult first year; climatic conditions in the second half of the 1946-47 season were bad, and this, with the attraction of high prices for cash crops, led to a situation in which the Board was able to provide most of the concerns buying maize from it with only 40 per cent of their requirements. There was, however, no unusual shortage of food among

subsistence farmers, although urban Africans had some difficulty in obtaining their requirements at reasonable prices. Arrangements were made for the supply and sale of maize under Government auspices to Africans resident in Zomba. The quantity of maize handled by the Control Board was 7,631 tons; the total output of the Protectorate is estimated at 300,000 to 400,000 tons.

The shortage of maize led to a greatly increased demand for secondary food crops, and it was fortunate that the available surplus of cassava was appreciably more than in the previous year and that that of rice, at a little under 2,000 tons, was only slightly less. Despite local requirements it was still possible to export just under 1,000 tons of rice to East Africa during the year and nearly 800 tons of beans to the Rhodesias. The production of wheat, which in the war years reached a point where the Protectorate became almost self-sufficient, unfortunately dropped appreciably, partly owing to the attraction of other more highly-priced crops.

The 1947-48 season began satisfactorily as regards food crops. There was an intensive drive for greater production, the emphasis being on better cultivation rather than increased acreages. The general response was good and weather conditions were on the whole favourable, so that the prospects for the 1948 harvest were cheering; there has, however, been a deterioration in the weather since the end of 1947.

Tobacco production in 1947 attained a new record. Statistics of production on private estates are not yet available, but nearly 21,000,000 pounds—over 10,000 short tons—were sold on the auction floor in the course of the year, 17,000,000 pounds being the produce of independent African growers on Native Trust Land, marketed through the medium of the Native Tobacco Board. These sales represent an increase of about 30 per cent on the previous year, and it is expected that the total production of tobacco in the Protectorate for 1947 will amount to about 29,000,000 pounds. Opening prices were high and in spite of violent fluctuations returns to growers were good. The excellent flue-cured crop brought particularly good returns to its European growers. For the first time flue-cured tobacco was marketed from the Government experimental station at Kasungu. Yields were good and the quality received favourable comment. The experiment is being continued.

Some 6,500 short tons of tea were produced, a decrease of about 500 tons on 1946 production. This decrease may be largely ascribed to shortages of labour and fertilisers, both of which were well below the requirements for full production. For the first time since the war years disposal to the Ministry of Food was optional, but the industry contracted to sell approximately 6,000 tons to the Ministry. Cotton production continued to expand, the total crop amounting to 6,764 tons of seed cotton compared with 5,740 tons in 1946. The great bulk of this was sold to the Ministry of Supply. The price for seed cotton to the grower was 3*d.* a pound, approximately 50 per cent more than in the previous year. All seed not required in Nyasaland was sold in South Africa as the Ministry of Food was unable to supply the bags necessary for its export to the United Kingdom. Tung production also continued to expand. Between 1945 and 1946 the acreage had increased from 10,132 acres to 13,361. The extraction of

oil from the 1947 crop is not yet complete, but the estimated yield is between 200 and 220 long tons compared with 115 tons in 1946. The yield of sisal is estimated at 276 short tons, compared with 274 tons in 1946, and the output of the country's one rubber estate was 48 tons, 22 tons less than that for the previous year. No new rubber planting has been done for many years.

Shortage of veterinary staff in the past few years has made the keeping of accurate statistics of the animal population impracticable. The country is thought to have some 250,000 cattle, 40,000 sheep, 200,000 goats, and 50,000 pigs; the number of poultry is unknown. Although all of these play an important part in village economy and especially in the social life of the people, they do not occupy the place which they should in commerce. Apart from a small trade in cattle and hides and skins there is no export of animal products. Cattle exported to Tanganyika numbered 313 in 1947 compared with 762 in 1946. Exports of hides and skins amounted to 23½ tons compared with 32½ tons. The main items in internal trade are meat and ghee. The only figures for the former are those of slaughter at the larger centres, as no records are kept of beasts killed in the villages for home consumption. In 1947, 4,978 cattle and 5,195 sheep and goats were recorded as killed at slaughter centres, against 5,649 and 4,864 respectively in 1946. Production of ghee amounted to 14 short tons against 31 in 1946. Measures for the encouragement of this industry received considerable attention during the year, and it is hoped that these will be successful in increasing output. Dairy products in general were scarce, owing partly to the steady increase in the non-native population, which led to a marked expansion in the demand for butter, milk, and ghee. The area of country available to cattle is unfortunately severely limited by tsetse fly.

The forests of Nyasaland produce both coniferous softwoods and hardwoods of considerable usefulness. The principal softwoods are Mlanje cedar (*Widdringtonia whytei*) and a number of introduced species of cypress and pine; the former is obtained from indigenous forests and the other species from plantations. Current output of softwoods, used mainly for Government building operations, is about 100,000 cu. ft. (round); cutting of Mlanje cedar for Government purposes during the year amounted to about 30,000 cu. ft. The main hardwoods are Mahogany (*Khaya nyasica*), Mwenya (*Adina microcephala*), and the valuable Mlombwa (*Pterocarpus angolensis*). They are in great demand by all sections of the community for constructional work and furniture and annual output is now between 200,000 and 300,000 cubic feet (round). Certain of the Mlanje forests are now being exploited by private enterprise, and these produced some 14,000 cu. ft. of hardwood (*Piptadenia burchananii*) and 6,000 cu. ft. of softwood (Mlanje cedar) during the year for the local market. All this Mlanje cedar timber was salvaged from dead and fallen trees, the utilisation of which is a great advance and enables the growing stock to be conserved for future use. Considerable use is made for many purposes of *Eucalyptus saligna*, one of the blue gums, but the annual sawn output from private estates is unknown. The Imperial Tobacco Company own and manage a large acreage of this timber, which is

processed at the Company's mill and used for the manufacture of tobacco hogsheads and boxes. The amount of timber taken in the form of poles for native building purposes is unknown, as most of it, together with much of the country's supply of firewood, comes free from Native Trust Land. The State forests produce more than a million cubic feet of timber of this type annually. The only minor forest products of any importance are charcoal, of which a small quantity is sold in the townships, stropanthus, and beeswax; less than 5 tons of the two latter together were exported during the year.

Lake and river fish form an important addition to both native and non-native diets, and the arrival during the year of a Fisheries Officer, following the completion of a marine biological survey, should make proper exploitation of the country's considerable resources practicable in the fairly near future. It is thought unlikely that catches by African fishermen at present exceed 2,000 or 3,000 tons, while those by non-native firms may approach a thousand tons. Statistics have so far been incomplete, but one of the Fisheries Officer's first tasks has been the training of recorders. He was also early engaged in the encouragement of the African fisherman and the improvement of his methods, with results which began to be visible towards the end of the year. Most of the catch is disposed of within the Southern Province, either in bulk or through the medium of hawkers using bicycles. Some 65 tons of fish were exported during the year, compared with 113 tons in 1946, a reduction which reflects the policy of ensuring adequate supplies for the home market before permitting export.

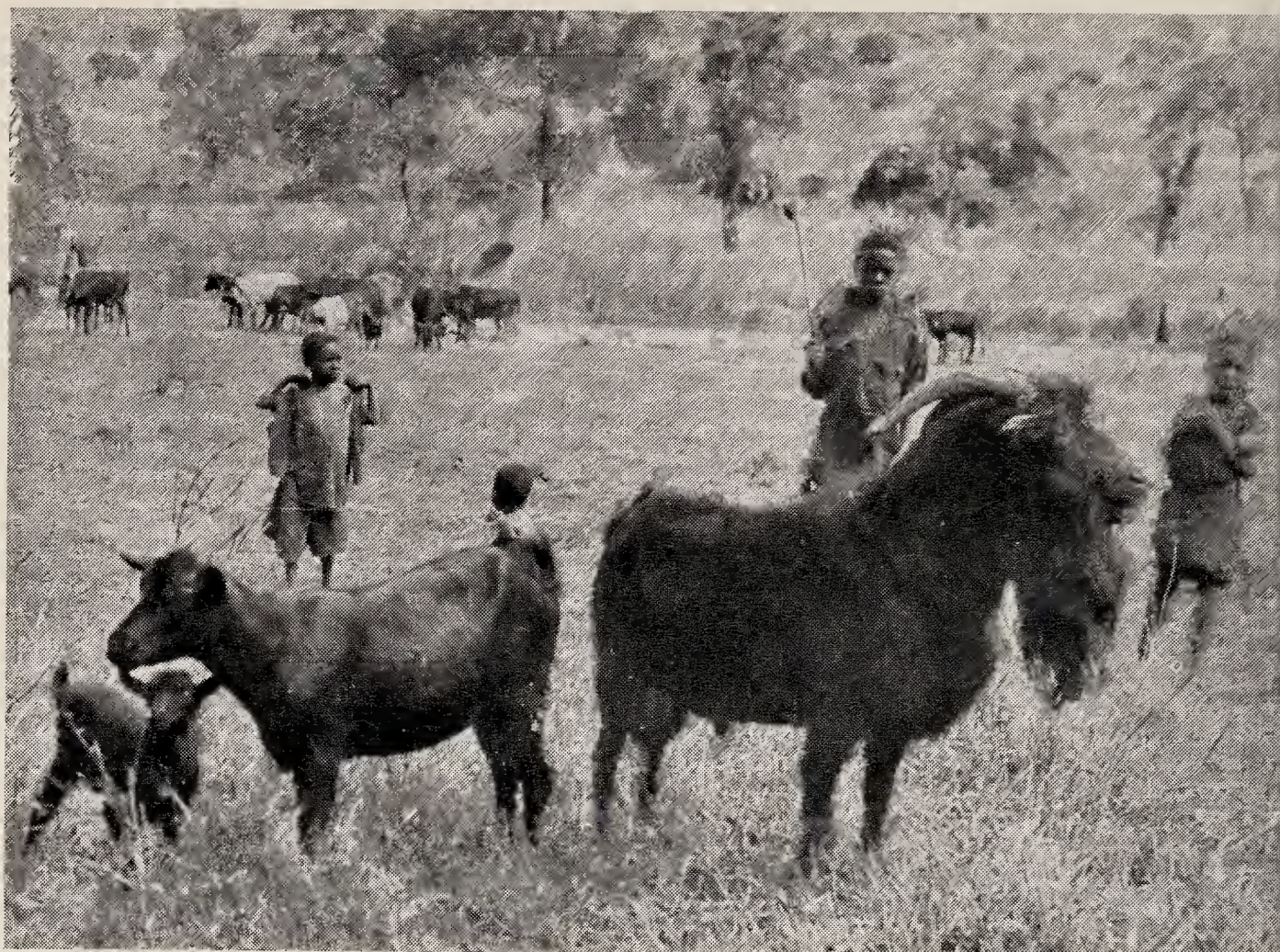
Mining production during the year was negligible. The working of corundum ceased, the company concerned ceasing operations and surrendering its lease. One exclusive licence was granted to prospect for gold in the Lisungwe area, where gold has been found previously, but the results of this investigation are not yet available. The only other minerals worked are clay, sand, and limestone for local building. No figures are available of the amounts extracted annually.

Most of the industrial operations conducted in Nyasaland are in connection with the processing and packing of primary products such as tobacco, tea, and cotton. There is little manufacturing at present, but, as mentioned in Part I, the possibilities of a number of secondary industries, some for the local market, others for export, are now being investigated. The principal manufactures are tobacco and cigarettes and soap, for local consumption. The annual value of their output is £97,000 and £84,000 respectively. In addition, two concerns produce rope and twine from local sisal, the output being worth about £24,000 in 1947, compared with £14,000 in 1946. Among industrial crafts building and printing have long been practised and both have been worked to capacity during the year. Tanning and cobbling continue to attract recruits for what is at present almost purely a village industry. The small local boat-building business, catering for both European pleasure and African needs, continued its operations.

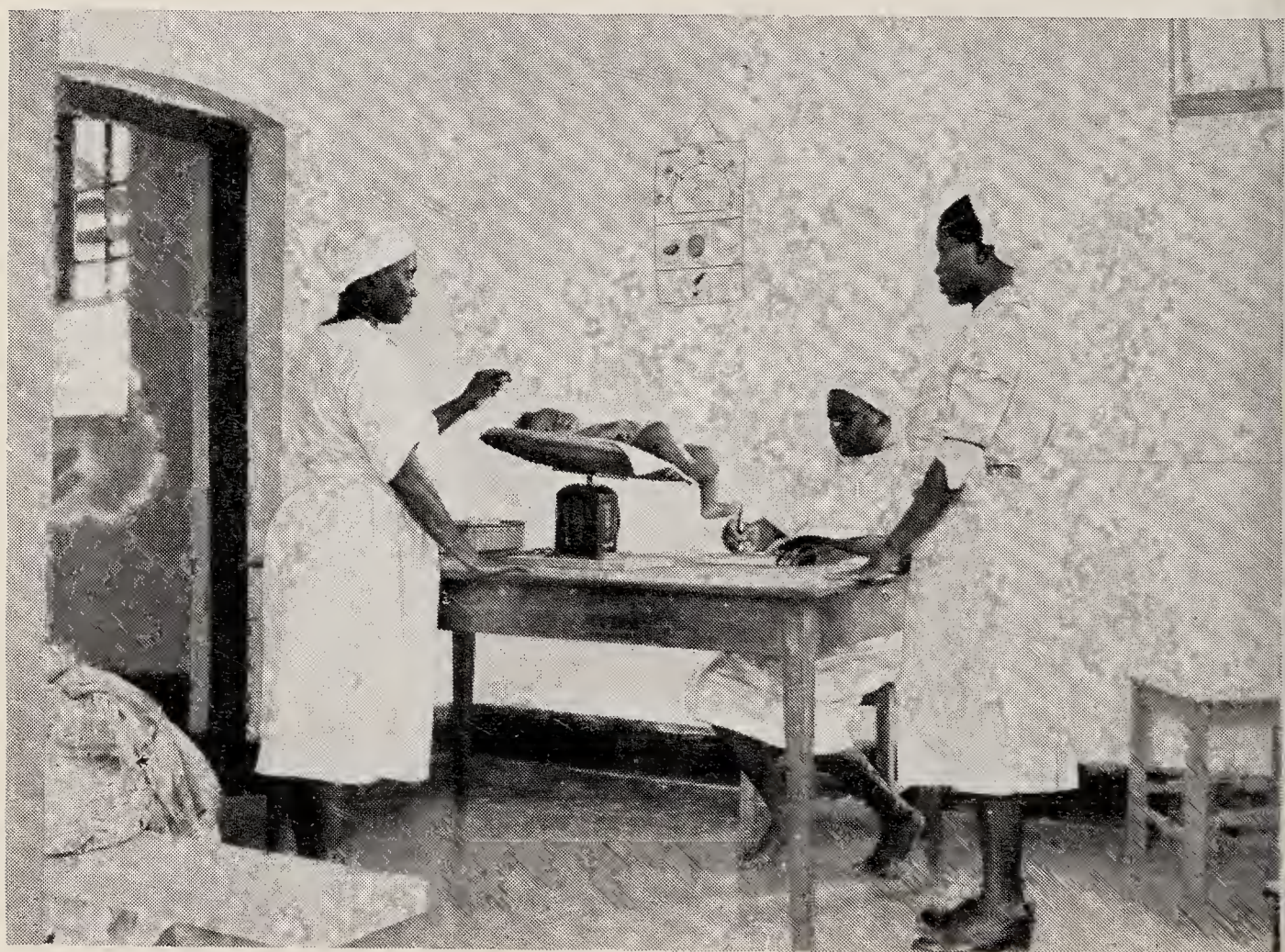
Agricultural production in Nyasaland may be said to be carried on in three different ways, on estates by direct labour, by native tenants who sell their produce to the estate owner, and by natives cultivating trust land



GRINDING MAIZE



ANGONI HERDSMEN AND THEIR CHARGES



Acknowledgments to Nyasaland Government Agents
AFRICAN CHILD WELFARE CLINIC, ZOMBA AFRICAN HOSPITAL



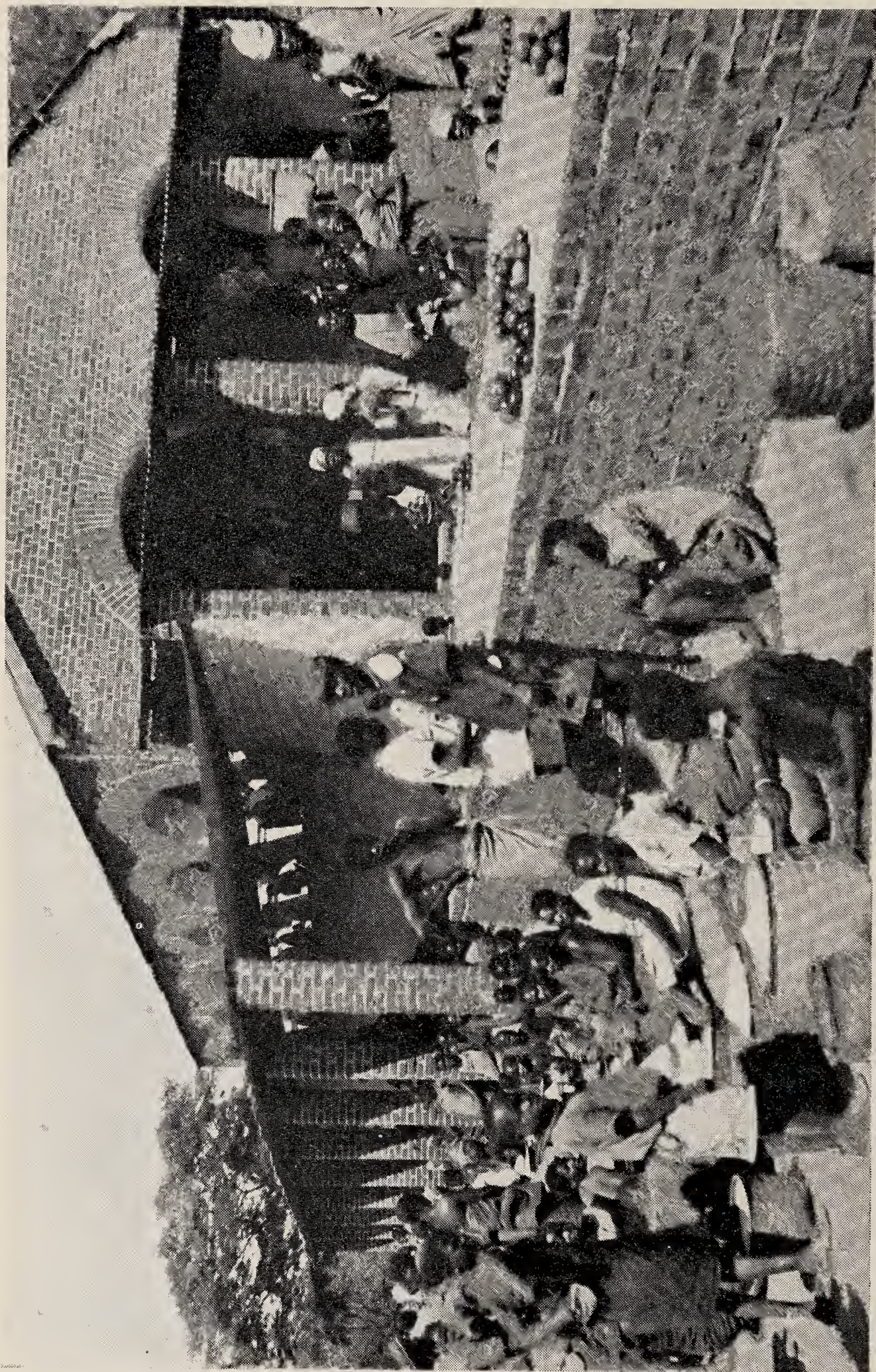
Acknowledgments to Empire Tea Bureau

PICKING TEA AT LUJERI ESTATE



Acknowledgments to Viscount Bledisloe

PICKING COTTON ON A PLANTATION



ZOMBA MARKET

on their own account and possibly themselves employing paid labour to do so. Tobacco is produced by all three methods, the first of which is responsible mainly for flue-cured tobacco, the production and curing of which requires considerable skill and capital. Tenant growers are allocated land on an estate, issued with seed, advanced food and tools where necessary, and grow their crops under the supervision of the estate owner or manager. Trust land growers are under the supervision of the Native Tobacco Board, which likewise issues seed, supervises cultivation and curing, and buys the entire crop, which it later sells over the auction floor. Its profits, above a stated figure put to reserve, are paid into the Native Development and Welfare Fund. Tea is entirely an estate crop, produced by direct labour, and so almost is tung, although a number of trees in the Northern Province are now in the care of native farmers. There are also a few independent African tung growers in the Southern Province. Sisal and rubber are also entirely estate crops. Eighty-five per cent of cotton, on the other hand, is grown by small cultivators on trust land. The proportion grown on estates increased considerably however, in 1947, owing no doubt to the rise in price which made cotton an attractive proposition to the estate owner.

Local food crops are still grown almost entirely by small cultivators, engaged primarily in subsistence farming, who sell the surplus from their family holdings. The shortages mentioned at the beginning of this chapter and the general world need for foodstuffs are likely, however, to lead to Government and other large consumers undertaking the production of staple foodstuffs, such as maize, on their own land by modern large-scale methods.

The production of ghee presents an interesting picture of a number of different methods. In some areas manufacture is by individual dairymen, trained and supervised by the Veterinary Department, from milk from their own cattle or that bought from their neighbours. Elsewhere the Veterinary Department itself undertakes the manufacture, and in other areas co-operative production societies have been formed by cattle-owners for the processing of their own milk. A fourth form of production is under the control of the local Native Authority. Marketing in all these cases is through the agency of the Veterinary Department.

The exploitation of forest produce remains chiefly in the hands of the Forestry Department, which was handicapped throughout the year by shortage of staff. Extraction from all the state forests is departmental, with the exception of the concession in the Ruo area of the Mlanje Reserve, which is worked by a private individual. He has recently experimented in the production of plywood from *Piptadenia*, with, it is understood, satisfactory results. The only other private enterprise in connection with forestry is the firewood trade, which is partly in private hands, although there is of course a very considerable amount of private extraction and utilisation on estates and by individual sawyers and others on a royalty basis.

Fisheries are in the hands of European firms, operating on a small scale in comparison with the potentialities of Lake Nyasa, and of independent African fishermen. Attempts some years ago to organise some form of

co-operative activity among the latter were unsuccessful possibly largely because most of the fishermen belong to a tribe which counts a dour suspicious individualism among its leading characteristics, but the Fisheries Officer is giving this problem his attention, for there is no doubt that co-operative arrangements for marketing and the purchase of gear would be of great benefit to the fishers.

In concluding this survey of the various methods of production in Nyasaland it can confidently be said that little economic production or progress would ever have been possible without the initiative, courage, and energy of the European section of the community and that at present it could not hope to continue without European supervision, management, and encouragement, whether these be official or unofficial.

The weather during the year was again far from perfect for agricultural production. Prolonged dry intervals in the first two months of the year caused young crops to suffer a setback from which they did not recover, and tea yields were sharply depressed. An abnormally wet and sunless March followed in most parts of the Protectorate, being particularly detrimental to the quality of the Central Province tobacco. The Cholo tea belt also suffered from these unfavourable conditions. Production during 1947 continued to be affected by the results of the severe flooding of 1946, as communications were interrupted in a number of places. Repairs to the Zomba Mountain road had not been completed by the end of 1947, so that all forest produce from the plantations on the plateau during the year had to be removed by head-loading, and agricultural produce from one area west of the Shire River was brought to Blantyre via an aerial ropeway rigged at the site of a broken bridge.

Commercial concerns were busy with the renovation of their buildings and plant after the war years, particularly on the tea estates, and in several cases the erection of new premises was begun, among them a new soap factory. A minor industrial development which may have considerable social and economic effects is the growing popularity among native households of having their maize ground for them at a mill, payment being made in either cash or kind. The practice, which it is proposed to encourage by the establishment of Native Administration mills and grain-stores, greatly reduces the amount of time occupied in domestic labour by the women of the family and, if accompanied by the provision of easily accessible water supplies, may lead to a marked change in their social and economic position.

A Registrar of Co-operative Societies was appointed at the beginning of the year, the first months of which he devoted to propaganda, the preparation of model by-laws, and the construction of systems of accounting. An African Co-operative assistant was trained by the Registrar during the year and posted to the Northern Province, whose people have shown an outstanding interest in the possibilities of co-operative methods, although not always a very clear appreciation of their meaning. Emphasis has so far been on the establishment of consumers' trading societies, as one of the greatest material needs of the people at present is a good supply of consumer goods at reasonable prices. Those societies which were established in time to share in the quota of Japanese textiles

imported during the year served their members well and reaped an adequate reward. Attention was also given to the organisation of producers' societies in one of the cattle areas, for the production of ghee. Although only one of the fourteen societies registered by the end of the year was of this nature others were in process of formation. Only one benefit society has so far been formed. After an examination of the position in regard to the provision of agricultural credit it was decided that the need for credit societies was not yet noticeable and that where such facilities were required it might be possible for the Native Treasuries to provide them by loans. Although it is not a co-operative society but a registered company, this appears an appropriate place to mention the Kotakota Produce and Trading Society, Ltd., which began as a company concerned only with the purchase, milling, and marketing of rice from the Kotakota area. It has latterly developed into a general trading concern which disposes of surpluses of any of the local crops and supplies its customers with ordinary trade goods as well as with gear employed in their various occupations. With the exception of four Government directors (out of seven members of the Board) its shareholders are all Africans.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Education is not at present compulsory for children of any race in Nyasaland.

There are some 4,300 primary schools for Africans, ranging from "village" schools giving vernacular instruction only, of which there are over 4,000, to the nine "Station" schools which give the three year senior course from Standard IV to Standard VI. The teaching of English begins in Standard I at "Central" schools which take the pupil up to Standard III. Primary education is still predominantly in the hands of the missionary societies who began it in the first days of their work in Nyasaland, but there are also a few private schools, such as those on certain estates, and there are others managed by Native Authorities, who are taking an increased interest in the establishment of non-sectarian schools. All are registered by the Education Department and subject to its inspection. Practically all the "Station" and "Central" schools and about a tenth of the "Village" schools receive Government grants, and schools so assisted contain over a third of the school population.

There are two African secondary schools, with a total enrolment of 102. At present their pupils proceed to Standard VIII, but the intention has been that Standards IX and X should be added when there are sufficient candidates wishing to proceed to School Certificate. One school is mainly for Protestants and the other for Roman Catholics; each is controlled by a Board of Governors comprising representatives of the Missions concerned together with a number of Government nominees. These schools derive their revenue from Government grants.

Teacher training is undertaken by the Missions and leads to certificate

examinations conducted by the Education Department. These are chiefly the English Grade and Vernacular Grade certificates, based on the requirements of the senior and junior school courses respectively. In 1947 380 men and 136 women, compared with 413 men and 111 women in 1946, were in training at thirteen institutions.

The only permanent establishment for Africans under the direct control of the Education Department is the Jeanes Training Centre, which during the year ceased to train community workers and began courses for progressive village headmen in their stead; the training of chiefs continued. These chiefs and headmen attend with their wives and children. The children attend the school which forms part of the Centre, and the students' womenfolk are given instruction in domestic and health matters and child welfare. The bias of the training given here is agricultural, but students also receive instruction in other forms of land usage, in civics, and in matters concerning local administration which will be of use to them in the performance of their normal duties. The opportunity is also taken to improve their general education. The ante-natal, maternity, and child welfare work carried out by the assistant mistresses belonging to the Centre is greatly appreciated by the people of the neighbourhood.

In the course of the year the Department was also responsible for running a course for African ex-servicemen who wished to complete their primary education. Twenty-five students attended and of these nine passed the Standard VI examination at their first attempt. Seven of the remainder are receiving further instruction at the Jeanes Centre, so that they may try again.

The 1945 census showed that 5.59 per cent of the African population was literate in the vernacular, and .96 per cent in English. These figures are thought to be conservative, since recruits to the Army in the later years of the war were found to be about 20 per cent literate, and they take no account of literacy among absentees. It is also possible that they referred only to adults, since some 212,000 pupils, close on 10 per cent of the total population, are enrolled in primary schools. It is estimated that about half of the country's children attend school for at least a short period between the ages of five and eighteen. The great majority, however, never pass beyond the lowest classes. The number of those passing the Standard VI examination at the end of the primary course was only 168, of whom three were girls, compared with 198 in 1946. This does, nevertheless, represent some advance upon the position in 1941, the year in which this examination was instituted, when there were 37 successful candidates. The number of passes in the Junior Secondary Certificate was 34, the best previous record being 18.

So far as Europeans are concerned, parents are encouraged to send children over the age of ten to schools outside the Protectorate, chiefly for reasons of health, but also on account of the comparatively small number of children concerned. A grant of £30 per annum is available to parents in respect of each child between ten and eighteen who is attending a school in South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Kenya, or Tanganyika (the two latter territories were added to the list during the year). For children up to ten, five schools are available locally, two

conducted by the Education Department and the others by Mission and other private agencies who receive Government grants. In addition to these facilities correspondence courses are provided, free of charge, through the generosity of the Southern Rhodesian Government for children living in Nyasaland who are unable to attend schools. In 1947, 177 European children attended schools within the Protectorate, 25 took the correspondence course, and 124 were at schools elsewhere in Africa, compared with 141, 23 and 165 in the respective categories in 1946. The increase in the local school population is no doubt partly due to the number of new arrivals with young families, and the decrease in those at school elsewhere is probably partly accounted for by some increase since the end of the war in the number at school in Britain. The total cost of European education to public funds was £7,661.

Indian schools are likewise assisted by Government grants. In 1947 four schools, with an enrolment of 388, received £1,550; these schools take children up to Standard VI. The Advisory Committee on Asian Education has recommended increased financial assistance from Government to these schools, which are feeling the effects of the recent great increase in the juvenile Indian population and figures in this connection are being worked out. Two Government bursaries were awarded during the year to enable Indian pupils to attend the Government Indian Secondary School at Dar-es-Salaam.

The Government Euro-African School, near Blantyre, which was opened in October 1946 with 16 pupils ranging from Sub-Standard A to Standard III, now has 37 pupils under a European mistress and a Euro-African Assistant Master. Bursaries are available for older children in this group who attend schools in Rhodesia and South Africa. Expenditure on these services amounted to £1,325.

The Government also provides university scholarships of the annual value of £100 to £200; eight of these were held during 1947, five by Europeans and three by Africans. The holders were pursuing their studies in Britain, South Africa, and Uganda. Bursaries for juvenile education are available in cases of need, where the facilities desired cannot be obtained within the Protectorate.

The education given to Africans in the Army during the war years through the East Africa Army Education Corps considerably increased the interest in and demand for adult education. Two former African non-commissioned officers of that Corps were appointed as Mass Education Assistants in 1946. Both were mainly employed in the training of ex-soldiers for civilian occupations until the arrival of the Mass Education Officer and the Assistant Mass Education Officer (a married team) in July, when one of these assistants joined them. Reference to the work of these officers and to the adult literacy campaign conducted by the Dutch Reformed Church Mission has already been made in Part I.

The Governor is advised on education policy by four separate committees for African, European, Asian, and Euro-African education. Each committee contains representatives of the section of the community which is concerned. On the advice of the Advisory Committee on African Education a Planning Committee was set up during the year to draw up

proposals for the second five-year plan of educational development, to cover the years 1950 to 1954, both inclusive. This Committee is expected to report before the middle of 1948. Each administrative District has a school committee which advises the Director of Education on local matters. The latter is responsible for the implementation of policy and for the inspection of all schools, as well as for the control and maintenance of Government schools, the conducting of Government and public examinations, and the control and payment of all local educational grants. The Education Department has so far also been responsible for the Information Service. It was relieved of responsibility for the administration of the Native Civil Service Board in the course of the year. The European staff of the Department numbers thirteen, and there is a permanent African staff of fourteen. Total expenditure in 1947 was £111,686.

HEALTH

As in other aspects of the life of the Protectorate, statistics concerning its health, morbidity and mortality are scarce, unreliable, and incomplete. For example, little information can be gleaned from a statement of the number of deaths occurring in African hospitals. The African likes to die at home and in most cases his relatives see that he gets there in time.

The commonest tropical diseases for which Africans are admitted to hospital are malaria, tropical ulcer, schistosomiasis and hookworm. The majority of patients are not seriously ill, but they require admission because their homes are distant. This applies particularly to such diseases as schistosomiasis, where the course of treatment lasts over four weeks, although the patient is up and about during the period of his stay in hospital.

There are 19 Government hospitals for Africans, with a total of 1,117 beds. There are also 95 rural dispensaries, many of which have rest houses attached to them where patients coming from a distance may live while undergoing treatment. Hospital buildings are generally well constructed and reasonably well equipped. Eight of those maintained by Government are in the charge of medical officers, seven are under sub-assistant surgeons, and four are sub-hospitals under African hospital assistants. Much of the pioneer medical work in Nyasaland was done by the various Missions, who still maintain a number of hospitals and dispensaries, leprosy colonies, and ante-natal and child welfare clinics. Six missionary doctors are actively engaged in medical work, and there are also numerous nursing sisters engaged in this service, many of them in charge of small hospitals on their own.

During the year there was an extension of smallpox of the major type which entered the country from Portuguese East Africa in 1946. Two thousand and two cases occurred with 185 deaths. The mild type of smallpox, Alastrim, which appeared first in Mzimba District in 1945, continued to prevail in the Central and Northern Provinces; there were 580 cases without a death. The severe type has been confined practically to the Southern Province and so far has not managed to gain a foothold north of Dedza, possibly owing to the fact that the vaccination campaign

of 1946 has rendered the majority of the population resistant to infection.

In last year's report, owing to the lack of available statistics at the time of writing, it was not possible to give details of the progress of the Venereal Disease Treatment Campaign made possible by the grant from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. The 1946 figures available now reveal that whereas 5,681 cases of venereal disease were treated in 1945, 10,011 were treated in 1946; an additional 639 were treated at mission hospitals. Despite the fact that posters and pamphlets lay the greatest stress on patients persevering with treatment long after clinical signs of the disease have disappeared, medical officers complain that few sufferers take the advice. The expenditure, however, is justified as a greatly increased number of sufferers must be rendered non-infectious and therefore unable to transmit the disease to others. Penicillin was in better supply in 1947 and its use was extended. Cases of gonorrhoea which proved resistant to "Sulpha" drugs benefited greatly by the increased use of this antibiotic.

Maternity and child welfare work is mainly in the hands of the Missions which receive assistance from public funds for this work. Available returns (for 1946) show a total of 3,936 confinements at maternity centres and of this number 3,028 were conducted under mission auspices.

Pure water supplies are still the exception in the rural areas, although a considerable number of wells and boreholes were provided from Colonial Development funds. Where these exist they are popular, and frequently attract settlement, but those who use them are disinclined to take much trouble over their maintenance. If a roller breaks it is usually regarded as much easier either to damage the well-coping by pulling the chain and bucket over it, or to make use of a convenient contaminated water-hole, than to send for the Well Inspector employed by the Native Authority, or even to attempt a repair locally. However, education in these matters is slowly proceeding. Plans have been prepared for widespread water development to be financed from a Colonial Development and Welfare grant. During the year progress was made with the provision of a piped water supply for the town of Kotakota, which has been the scene of a vigorous anti-bilharzia campaign.

Urban water supplies are described in Chapter 10. Most estates, mission stations, and industrial establishments have their own arrangements, varying from the primitive to the comparatively elaborate.

The majority of the Europeans live in the Shire Highlands and the plateau areas of the Central Province. Both areas have a very definite cold season and are comparatively healthy. Few houses are mosquito-proofed, and malaria is therefore common, particularly during the rains, but as most people take prophylactic quinine, mepacrine, or paludrine, complications are infrequent. Government maintains hospitals for Europeans at Zomba, Blantyre, and Lilongwe and all of them have beds for the reception of maternity cases. In addition, the Seventh Day Adventist Mission maintains a small European hospital in the Cholo District for the admission of members of the general public. Admissions in 1947 to the three Government hospitals numbered 672, by far the commonest disease treated being malaria, which accounted for 164

admissions. There were 57 confinements compared with 29 in 1946. Deaths numbered nine.

Asiatics are more widely scattered through the territory than Europeans. They live under conditions not conducive to robust health, especially in rural areas where the more poorly paid members of this group are engaged in trading at small stores built of temporary or semi-permanent materials. Asiatic patients are admitted to special wards at Zomba, Blantyre and Lilongwe Government hospitals, and there is also a small Asiatic ward at the Seventh Day Adventist Mission in Cholo.

The Government Medical Staff consists of a Director of Medical Services, his deputy, two senior medical officers, a surgical specialist, a pathologist, sixteen medical officers, a dental officer and a pharmacist-storekeeper. The nursing staff comprises a matron and seventeen nursing sisters. All the foregoing are Europeans. There are two Asian senior sub-assistant surgeons and eight Asian sub-assistant surgeons, and an African staff of 43 hospital assistants, 260 African dressers, and 71 African midwives and nurses.

The Government sanitary staff comprises a senior health inspector, two health inspectors, and 66 African sanitary assistants and vaccinators. The health inspectors are attached to the townships of Zomba, Blantyre, and Lilongwe, and are almost wholly employed in supervising the routine sanitary measures of these towns on behalf of the local authorities. There are also a number of sanitary police in the employment of the various Native Authorities, and on estates.

The African Hospital, Zomba, which has 200 beds, is also the training centre for subordinate African staff. There are two courses of training for men and one for women. Men who have passed Standard VI or have attended a secondary school are accepted for training as medical aides and hospital assistants. The first year of training is the same for both and it is designed to fit the trainees to act as male nurses. At the end of the first year the better men are selected for the hospital assistants' course while the remainder complete the course for medical aides. In their second year of training the medical aides learn to diagnose the common diseases of the country and to treat such diseases as can safely be treated at a rural dispensary. These medical aides are therefore trained for a dual purpose. When posted to hospitals they act as male nurses, when posted to rural dispensaries they diagnose and treat what they can and send what they cannot deal with to hospital.

The hospital assistant-to-be, after his first year of nursing work, is given an intensive course lasting two years. At the end of it he is a highly-trained medical aide who has been given the rudiments of a proper medical course and, if he has ability and a real interest in medical work, he can in the future learn by experience of the apprenticeship type to become a useful diagnostician and a man skilled in such practical work as minor surgery, anaesthetics, microscopy, etc. Work involving a knowledge of the basic medical sciences is, however, beyond him.

Women, whose minimum standard of education is ability to read and write fluently in the vernacular, are admitted for training as midwives. Many are rejected at the end of the first year on account of a poor education,

but if they have practical ability they are given posts as ungraded nurses. Those with ability are given a further year to complete the midwives' course. In view of their low scholastic standard the teaching is conducted slowly and their final Government examination is not of a high standard. They must, however, be capable of recognising the presence of abnormalities during pregnancy and labour and of conducting normal labour cases unassisted.

The senior health inspector conducts a course for sanitary assistants. Their educational standards are the same as for medical aides and the course lasts two years. Field work is a feature of the course and the theoretical side is conducted with a view to African conditions of life. A more robust type of individual, mentally and physically, is selected for this course as sanitary assistants have often to control labour gangs and their duties of inspection calls for a considerable degree of self-confidence and firmness.

During the year two refresher courses of training for African ex-army nursing orderlies were completed at Zomba African Hospital and a third one started in November. It has been found that ex-army nursing orderlies are weak in the diagnosis of the common diseases of the country and before they can be classed as suitable to take charge of rural dispensaries, an intensive course of instruction lasting three months is necessary to fit them for such work. Generally speaking, the African staff position is good. The leeway caused by the war has been made up and we are now in the position of preparing for further expansion of the medical facilities of the country.

HOUSING

Housing in Nyasaland continues to be simple. The European and the well-to-do Asiatic live in brick bungalows with corrugated iron or thatched roofs, the rural Asiatic trader lives at the back of his brick or wattle-and-daub store, and the vast majority of the African population continue to live in wattle-and-daub huts of traditional round or oblong design, ventilated mainly through the door, usually with an open fireplace near the centre, and not infrequently also occupied by poultry or even larger livestock. One of the things most frequently noticed in African soldiers' mail during the late war was the expression of a determination to build a better type of house, usually a brick cottage, and in many cases this ambition has now been fulfilled, or will be when craftsmen and materials are available. This welcome improvement in the standard of living is also noticeable among the better educated and among those who have been at work in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa. It may almost be said that the hallmark of the enlightened man is a house with windows, a separate kitchen, and a pit latrine.

Housing of employees is a matter which receives considerable attention both from employers and from the Medical and Labour Departments. War and post-war conditions with the resultant shortages of labour and materials have prevented progress in this respect from being as great as could be desired, but labour quarters are steadily improving, to the benefit of all concerned. There are so many varieties of these quarters, ranging

from the grass shack which serves as temporary shelter for the labourer on the roads to the trim and comfortable little brick cottage of the senior clerk or foreman, that it is not practicable to describe them in a short report.

SOCIAL WELFARE

One of Nyasaland's missionary bishops recently defined social welfare work as "giving one's attention to and straightening out defective social situations." If this definition be accepted, almost every organisation and institution in the country, most of the Europeans, and many of those of other races, engage in social welfare work, although the majority may not realise it. Apart from those whose daily occupations require it, the European employer and the African family have traditionally the duty of dealing with the domestic and social difficulties of those for whom they are responsible. The professional welfare worker is therefore only now beginning to make his appearance outside the mission staffs, to deal with the problems arising from industrialisation and urbanisation. The work of the Nyasaland Government Representatives and the labour chaplains in dealing with the problems of the migrant labourer and his family has been mentioned in Part II, Chapter 2.

There is as yet no Government Social Welfare Department, nor are there welfare officers in the employment of any of the industrial or commercial concerns except the Nyasaland Railways, which have recently appointed two European Wardens of African employees, both men with considerable experience of the country. One acts as compound manager at railway headquarters at Limbe, and the other is responsible for the welfare of all African employees elsewhere on the line from Beira to Lake Nyasa. They act as liaison officers between management and staff and undertake the organisation and supervision of welfare and recreational activities, the former including a co-operative consumers' society. Similar activities on estates and the like are among the responsibilities of a member of the European staff, frequently the manager himself, and several of the larger concerns have formulated long-term plans for the welfare of their employees, including improved housing, water supplies, and sanitation, the establishment or improvement of dispensaries, canteens, and libraries, and the addition of concerts and cinema exhibitions to existing recreational activities. Hot tea has long been provided for the field workers on certain estates, and at least one concern now operates a canteen lorry which also provides hot food in the field.

In the undeveloped rural areas which still comprise the great bulk of the country's land surface organised welfare activity has been widely undertaken by the various Missions, and continues to expand, although here too the country dweller owes a considerable debt to the individual European—and particularly to his wife. The various churches are themselves powerful social welfare organisations, whether or not they sponsor specific societies of the type of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul; Women's Guilds, Girls' Clubs, Scouts, Guides, Boys' Brigade, Health Societies, and congregational poor relief funds are among their activities. A rarely mentioned but very valuable service which the missionary and

other established Europeans perform in the outlying districts is that of banker for the emigrant. They also provide facilities for the collection and distribution of mail, a considerable contribution to welfare in a country which has no rural delivery.

These activities are mostly, however, connected with some existing institution, and the development of any community-consciousness in the towns is a slow business. Welfare societies of various kinds have sprung up from time to time, but appear at present to be largely dormant, possibly owing to the lack of premises in which to carry on their work. The Native Development and Welfare Fund is now financing the erection of urban recreation and welfare centres, and that in Zomba was opened during the year. It is run by a committee of African residents in the area, with the guidance of the District Commissioner. The most notable activity so far undertaken in connection with it has been the organisation, by a group of officials' wives, of a Women's Club, which provides knitting, sewing and dress-making classes and talks and discussions. In regard to the social sense of the industrialised African, it may be remarked that the Nyasa at work in other territories has for some time past been quick to join his expatriated fellow-countrymen in the formation of local benevolent societies.

The care of the aged and the blind is still generally a matter for ordinary family or communal responsibility, but blind Africans may be sent to a training school in Northern Rhodesia run by the Dutch Reformed Church Mission and subsidised by the Nyasaland Government. There is a settlement for the blind, where they are encouraged to work as they are able, at a station of the South Africa General Mission near Port Herald, which also is assisted from public funds. A problem which received considerable attention during the year was that of the care of the elderly European without relatives, and with no ties or interests outside the Protectorate, and frequently in poor financial circumstances. A scheme has now been prepared for the establishment of an Old People's Home, on garden suburb lines with certain communal facilities and a qualified matron, in the Blantyre neighbourhood. It is proposed that it should be supported partly from public funds and partly from private subscriptions, apart from such contributions as those resident are able to make.

The only other institutions solely concerned with social welfare are the hostel at Blantyre for sick repatriates from the southern territories and the King's African Rifles Memorial Home, founded in 1919 as an African "Chelsea Hospital" and now in process of being re-endowed and expanded. Shortage of materials has so far prevented the initiation of the rebuilding programme.

Juvenile delinquency is dealt with in Part II, Chapter 9.

Apart from the activities of the various Departments concerned, the Government makes a small annual provision for the relief of necessitous cases, and contributes to the King's African Rifles Memorial Home.

Chapter 8: Legislation

Apart from subsidiary legislation, thirty-three Ordinances were passed during the year, a programme which threw a heavy strain upon the Legal Department. Eighteen of these were amending Ordinances, designed to bring existing legislation up to date, or to provide for circumstances not visualised when the principal Ordinance was enacted. An example of the latter was the Forest (Amendment) Ordinance, which provided for the granting, under conditions, of exclusive licences to take forest produce, so that timber concessions may be granted to suitable operative concerns. The Trade Unions and Trade Disputes Ordinance was also amended as mentioned on page 20.

A number of Ordinances dealing with natural resources were passed in 1946, and this subject consequently did not bulk largely in the legislation of 1947. The Radio-active Minerals Ordinance controls and regulates prospecting for mining and export of radio-active minerals. The Tung, Tea, Tobacco, and Maize Control Ordinances were all amended during the year. The Tea Ordinance is due to expire on 31st March, 1948, but it was considered desirable to repeal immediately the restrictions imposed by it upon the replanting of tea. The amendments to the other Ordinances were mainly concerned with matters of procedure and organisation.

An Ordinance of considerable importance was passed to replace the Native Courts Ordinance (Revised Laws of Nyasaland, 1933, Cap. 4). This re-enacts most of the existing provisions regarding the establishment and jurisdiction of Native Courts, but provides for the appointment of a Native Courts Adviser and Assistant Advisers, responsible for the supervision of Native Courts, and invested with revisionary and appellate powers. It further provides that there shall no longer be the multiplicity of appeals allowed under the old Ordinance, but that Court Warrants shall specify the courts to which appeals lie, the final appeal being to the Native Courts Adviser and not, as previously, to the High Court. The Native Courts Adviser may, however, state a case on a point of law for the opinion of the High Court. This Ordinance was discussed at length in the African Provincial and Protectorate Councils before it was introduced into Legislative Council.

Legislation of a social nature included the Divorce (Amendment) Ordinance which introduced into the principal Ordinance (Revised Laws, Cap. 80) the main features of the Matrimonial Causes Act (1937) (Herbert's Act).

The work of the Central African Archives, to which further reference is made in Part II, Chapter 12, was aided by the Printed Publications Ordinance, which provides that a copy of every book or newspaper published in the Protectorate is supplied by the publisher to the Royal Commission for Central African Archives in Salisbury. This Ordinance was modelled on similar legislation already existing in Southern Rhodesia, and the intention is that the Archives should hold a complete collection of all printed matter published in the three Central African territories.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The Courts of the Protectorate consist of the High Court, with jurisdiction over all persons and over all matters in the Protectorate, and courts subordinate thereto. There are also Native Courts, which are supervised by the Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners.

Subordinate courts are nominally of the first, second and third class with differentiated powers of trial of natives and non-natives, the trial of non-natives in certain matters being reserved to courts of the first and second classes.

Courts of the first class are held by Provincial Commissioners, and at Blantyre and Lilongwe by Magistrates who are barristers-at-law. The second and third class courts are presided over by the District and Assistant District Commissioners of each district.

The Criminal Procedure Code confers on first and second-class courts a limited jurisdiction over Europeans and other non-natives, the sentences which may be imposed upon these two classes by a court of the second class being limited to six months. The graver crimes are tried by the High Court after a preliminary inquiry before a subordinate court.

Subordinate courts of the first and second class may try natives for any offence under the Penal Code or any other law, other than treason, misprision of treason, murder, and manslaughter; but any sentence of more than six months' imprisonment is subject to confirmation by the High Court. Subordinate courts have the power to commit serious cases for trial to the High Court.

In civil matters, courts of the first, second and third class have jurisdiction over Europeans and Asiatics in all matters in which the amount or value in dispute does not exceed £100, £50, or £25 respectively. "Courts of the first and second class may subject to the provisions of Article 20 of the British Central Africa Order in Council, 1902, try any native civil case and courts of the third class may subject as above and subject to the provisions of Section 13 of the Courts Ordinance (Revised Laws, Cap. 3) try any such case." Section 13 reserves certain cases "relating to land and disputes between native chiefs of such importance as not to fall under the head of mere district discipline" to courts of the first or second class or the High Court, unless the Governor shall otherwise direct.

So far, appeals from Native Courts have lain ultimately to the High Court. When the Native Courts Ordinance, 1947, is brought into force, however, appellate jurisdiction will be withdrawn from the High Court though questions of law may be referred to it by the Native Courts Adviser under Section 26 of the Ordinance.

The High Court may call for the records of all courts subordinate to itself, to satisfy itself as to the legality and propriety of the proceedings and sentence.

Appeals from subordinate courts in civil and criminal matters lie to the High Court.

Appeals from the High Court in civil and criminal matters lie to the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Court of Appeal which Court holds sessions approximately every other month at Salisbury, Livingstone or Blantyre.

The Chief Justice arranges regular Circuits three or four times a year and so far as is possible fixes the venue in or near the District in which the alleged crime has been committed. He also inspects the court books and files of subordinate courts. He is *ex officio* Visiting Justice of the central and district prisons of the Protectorate.

During the last few years a beginning has been made in the introduction of modern methods of penology. The Probation of Offenders Ordinance, 1945, and the Children and Young Persons Ordinance, 1946, were passed with this object. It is too early yet to give much account of the work of probation officers or of approved schools or of the results.

POLICE

The establishment of the Nyasaland Police includes twenty Europeans, none below the rank of assistant inspector, two Asians, and 513 African ranks, of whom the senior are four assistant sub-inspectors. The Criminal Investigation Branch consists of one European officer and twenty-one Africans. The Force otherwise is divided into the Investigation Branch and the Regular Branch. The former, 128 strong, are all literate in English and of not less than Standard IV education; the latter, 354 strong, are either illiterate or literate in the vernacular only, and are engaged principally on guard, beat, patrol, and escort duties. The Force generally is employed in the maintenance of law and order, the prevention and detection of crime, and the protection of property. Members of the Force also perform immigration duties and conduct the examination of motor vehicles. A regular system of beats is maintained in all the larger settlements, and patrols visit all parts of the country.

It has been accepted in principle that the Force shall gradually be converted into one of which all the members are literate in English, a process which began in 1944 with the appointment of 16 Station Sergeants and has now reached the stage where about one-third of the Force is so qualified. There has been no difficulty in obtaining recruits of the required standard, and some recruits who would have been eligible for the Investigation Branch have joined the Regular Branch for the time being in the hope of being absorbed later into the Investigation Branch when the latter's establishment permits. Preference in recruiting is given to ex-servicemen.

The posting of literate African ranks to all stations resulted in 1946 in statistics of crime becoming available for the whole Protectorate. The total number of offences dealt with by the Police in 1947 was 6,996, compared with 6,738 in 1946; of these, 3,597 were criminal (3,146 in 1946) and 3,399 were statutory (3,592 in 1946). Seventy-nine reports of murders were dealt with as compared with 86 in 1946; 34 of these were committed at beer drinks or shortly after the accused had attended beer

drinks. Seven hundred and thirty reports of burglary, house-breaking, and store-breaking were dealt with as compared with 586 in 1946. There has been a steady and substantial increase in cases of this sort during the last few years, and the statistics show that the majority of these offences are committed by recidivists who make theft of this nature their profession. Supervision of known habitual criminals and a study of their methods have been attended with considerable success, and it was possible at one stage to report that an epidemic of burglary in the townships had ceased abruptly following the arrest of two gangs of professionals. One thousand five hundred and fifty-six cases of other forms of theft were reported, compared with 1,434 in 1946. Cases of house-breaking, store-breaking, and theft together comprised almost two-thirds of the total criminal offences reported. There were 117 cases of arson compared with 109 in 1946.

The Force has a long record of prowess on the rifle range, to which it added during the year by winning the East and West Africa Police Shooting Cup for the fifth time.

PRISONS

The Central Prison at Zomba is the only prison in the Protectorate directly administered by officers of the Prisons Service. The remaining two second-class and nine third-class prisons are supervised by Administrative or Police officers, with staffs of regular warders. There is also a Prison Farm at Pyupyu near Zomba, which is run as a branch of the Central Prison. Prisons are classified according to the type of prisoner received. The Central Prison takes all classes from all over the Protectorate; the provincial, or second-class, prisons at Blantyre and Lilongwe retain only first offenders with sentences up to two years, and the third-class prisons retain only first offenders with sentences up to six months.

The staff of the Department comprises four Europeans and 180 Africans; the latter include an agricultural assistant and four jailers. The majority of the staff are stationed at the Central Prison and the Prison Farm. Disciplinary offences by members of the African staff numbered 106 as compared with 93 in 1946. The training of warder recruits, previously carried out at the Police Depot, was for the first time undertaken at the Central Prison.

One thousand nine hundred and seventy-eight prisoners were admitted on conviction to the various prisons during the year, compared with 1,990 in 1946. The number of female prisoners was 42, compared with 55. Five non-native prisoners, of whom one was a European, were admitted, compared with 7 in 1946. Remand prisoners numbered 3,390, of whom 56 were females. The number of recidivists admitted to the Central Prison was 161, an increase of 11 on the previous year's figure. It has been necessary to alter the method of compiling District Prison records of recidivists, which were found to be unsatisfactory and incorrect, and no figures for these can therefore be given. The number of punishments for breaches of prison discipline continues to decrease. Only 123 such punishments, mainly loss of remission and extra work, were awarded

during the year, compared with 158 in 1946 and 165 in 1945 and there were no cases of corporal punishment. No juveniles were admitted during the year to prison, but nine were admitted to the Chilwa Approved School to which reference has been made in Part I. The health of the prisoners continued to be good, the average daily sick list for all prisons being 22.18 for a total average population of 735. There were nine deaths, all from natural causes.

Classification and segregation were further advanced. Only first offenders are sent to the Prison Farm, and young offenders serving their sentences there are provided with accommodation separate from that occupied by the older men. The usual prison industries were carried on at the Central Prison, but the majority of prisoners were employed on agricultural work. An increased acreage was brought under cultivation at the Farm, and the nucleus of a milking herd, and six draught oxen were added to its equipment. It is hoped that the practical training in sound agriculture and animal husbandry now given there will be of benefit both to the ex-prisoner after his release and the community generally. In addition to the production of a large quantity of foodstuffs prisoners were also responsible for a considerable output of bricks and tiles and for most of the Department's building activities. Evening educational classes were started at the Central Prison, and proved very popular, but were hampered by a shortage of teachers, although it was possible for educated prisoners to help in this work. A library was also instituted. Educational classes were also available to the female prisoners in addition to their instruction in handicrafts. The voluntary lady visitors continued to give invaluable help in this respect, as well as in raising the general morale of these women, who are now making clothes for themselves against their discharge, when, if they have taken advantage of their opportunities, they will be able to return to their homes as good needlewomen, and capable cooks, in addition to being able to read and write and keep household accounts.

There is no Discharged Prisoners Aid Society in the Protectorate, but the Government provides funds for the payment of small gratuities to prisoners in need of help. The scale of these payments was increased slightly during the year in the hope of reducing the number of offences committed by discharged prisoners immediately after their release. All discharged prisoners are returned to their homes at public expense.

Chapter 10: Public Utilities

The only public utility services operated in Nyasaland are the Electricity and Water Supplies of the Townships of Zomba and Blantyre, the electricity supply of Limbe and the water supply of Lilongwe.

The Zomba piped water supply is taken from the Mlungusi River, halfway up Zomba Mountain and is distributed by gravity to all parts of the capital. The water is neither filtered nor otherwise treated, but has been shown by analysis to be clean and pure. Electricity is supplied by a small hydro-electric plant consisting of two Pelton wheels and two

70-kilowatt alternators, augmented by a 50-kilowatt diesel set. Both services, which are owned and operated by Government, were severely damaged in the flood of 1946. Emergency services were rapidly improvised, but by July permanent repairs to both electricity and water supplies had been completed and conditions restored to normal. The water supply was in fact improved by the replacing of two 2-in. mains by a single 4-in. pipe. Water is charged for at a monthly rate of 3s. 6d. per house and electricity at 6d. per 100 sq. ft. lighted area plus 1½d. per unit.

Blantyre draws its water from a dam on the Mudi River some four miles from the town. The water is passed through sedimentation tanks and pressure filters before being chlorinated and piped by gravity through a 6-in. main to the township. The electrical power plant consists of three diesel driven alternators with a total output of 255 kilowatts. Both services are owned and operated by the Municipality. The charge for water is 2s. 6d. a thousand gallons up to an amount which depends on the rateable value of the property and 1s. a thousand gallons thereafter. Electricity charges differ according to use. For ordinary households there is a minimum monthly charge equal to three units per living room at 1s. 8d. a unit, and thereafter 2d. a unit for the next fifty units and 1d. a unit for any excess.

Limbe does not have a piped water supply but a scheme is under preparation for a gravity supply depending on a service reservoir into which water will be pumped from a dam. Electricity is bought in bulk from the Nyasaland Railways by the Municipality, which distributes it throughout the township. For ordinary households there is a minimum monthly charge of 5s., charges being levied on a basis of 1s. per unit up to an amount equal to 1s. per 100 sq. ft. of the main buildings and thereafter 3d. a unit.

Lilongwe has no electricity supply and the present water supply merely delivers river water to the houses, unfiltered and unchlorinated. Water is pumped from the river to a small service reservoir and thence fed by gravity throughout the township. A scheme has been prepared for augmenting the supply and for introducing filtration and chlorination. Materials and plant for the work are on order. The undertaking is controlled by a Water Board and serviced by the Public Works Department.

There is no local broadcasting service. Nyasaland will participate in the Central African Broadcasting Service, which will provide non-native programmes from Southern Rhodesia and native programmes, including programmes in the vernaculars, from Northern Rhodesia. The programmes at present broadcast from Salisbury and Lusaka are received clearly in most parts of the Protectorate.

Chapter II: Communications

SHIPPING

Throughout the year congestion at South and East African ports was prevalent, especially at Beira, which the Conference lines were compelled

temporarily to omit from their schedules. Internal water transport on Lake Nyasa is mainly in the hands of the Nyasaland Railways, who have recently increased their fleet by the addition of four tugs and a number of barges; the latter were in process of assembly at the end of the year. There is at present no regular passenger service on the Lake, but plans are under consideration for a motor passenger vessel as part of the railways' fleet. Their vessel, the *Mpasa*, of 200 tons, continued to provide a freight service during the year. The Universities' Mission to Central Africa also operates one small steamer on the Lake, and there is a good deal of dhow traffic.

RAILWAYS

Communication with the sea at Beira and with Southern Rhodesia is effected by the 3 ft. 6 in. gauge line operated by the Nyasaland, Central Africa, and Trans-Zambesia Railways, via the Lower Zambesi Bridge, whose 12,064 ft. make it the longest railway bridge in the world. Railhead is at Salima, near Lake Nyasa, and at Chipoka, farther south and on the Lake, trains connect with the Lake steamers. There has been a steady increase year by year in the goods and passenger traffic carried, except for a drop in 1944, when imports were small. Taking the section of the line served by Nyasaland Railways, Ltd., annual goods traffic increased between 1939 and 1946 by over two-thirds, from 64,000 tons to 118,000 tons, and the number of passengers carried rose by 155 per cent, from 107,000 to 268,000. The passenger figure includes those carried by the Sentinel coaches which operate on the northern section of the lines. Orders were placed during the year for five additional main line engines and additional rolling stock. The five-mile re-alignment of the railway between Chiromo and Pokera, where the line had been subjected to serious flooding during recent years, was completed in 1947 and an order was placed with the Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Company for the construction of a new bridge over the Shire at Chiromo. Construction, by the Portuguese Government, of a railway connecting the Central Africa Railway at Dona Ana with Tete proceeds slowly. A hundred and twenty-two kilometres have been completed and the remainder is expected to be finished by 1950.

ROADS AND VEHICLES

Nyasaland is well served with roads and has good connections with neighbouring territories. The spinal column of its road system is the route from the Portuguese border on the Ruo River, near Mlanje, through Limbe to Blantyre, and thence north across the Shire at the Murchison Bridge, through the Central Province, meeting the Great East Road from Lusaka at Lilongwe, and continuing through the Northern Province to join the Northern Rhodesian and Tanganyika system at Tundume, seventy-two miles south of Mbeya. Most other roads of importance are in effect links between this route and the railway or the Lake, with the exception of the road from Blantyre to Mwanza and the Portuguest border which continues through Portuguese territory via Tete to Salisbury, Southern Rhodesia, and South Africa. The total mileage of main roads, excluding

the townships, is 1,856, of which only four miles are full-width tarmac. There are also 540 miles of other roads maintained by the Public Works Department, and some 1,500 miles maintained by the District Administration or the Native Authorities, but these are mostly for use by light traffic in the dry season only. The cost of maintaining roads ranges from £30 a mile for metalled main roads to about 30s. a mile for minor district roads.

The road link between Nyasaland and Southern Rhodesia, broken in December 1946, when the bridge across the Shire River was washed away, was restored in November, 1947, on the completion of a replacement. Construction of a new feeder road from the Dedza highlands to the railway at Golomoti, begun in 1946, was continued and although work was not completed by the end of the year it was by then possible for a car to reach the railway on this line. The road when finished will be about seventeen miles long, passing through difficult hilly country and dropping over 3,000 ft. in ten miles. - General improvement of other roads continued, particularly in respect of bridging and drainage works on the Great North Road and the Fort Johnston—Monkey Bay and Ekwendeni—Nkata Bay roads. Preliminary surveys were made to find a route for the proposed new road from Fort Hill to Karonga, which will pass through difficult country. It is hoped that construction will be begun in 1948, after the rains have finished.

As regards motor transport, the year saw the inauguration of the omnibus services operated by the Nyasaland Transport Company, Ltd., and by the end of the year these covered most of the main roads of the Protectorate, as far north as Mzimba.

AVIATION

All scheduled internal and feeder air services have been provided by the Central African Airways Corporation since its inception in June 1946, and services to and from Southern Rhodesia have been considerably increased during the past year to provide for the rising demand for air passages and freight. In September the Corporation introduced a weekly air freight service between Salisbury and Chileka, operated by converted De Havilland "Rapide" aircraft, but this service has as yet been mainly confined to incoming traffic. The Corporation is at present investigating the possibilities of obtaining outgoing traffic in the form of fresh fish, vegetables and fruit for Southern Rhodesia.

Non-scheduled air services have mainly been provided by a local company, the Nyasaland Aviation Company, whose fleet, consisting of small light aircraft, has proved most useful for official and private charter flights to those outstations where the use of the landing ground is at present restricted to light aircraft only. Visitors on short visits to the Protectorate consequently had opportunities, hitherto lacking, of visiting outlying and isolated areas of the Protectorate.

In addition the Nyasaland Aviation Company provided the local Aero Club with facilities for flying instruction, and during the course of the year seven members of the Aero Club obtained their Pilots' "Class A" licences.

Two privately-owned aircraft were registered in the Protectorate in 1947; one belonging to the Nyasaland Transport Company, Ltd., and the other to an employee of the Public Works Department, who found it most useful in connection with his official duties.

Despite the increased air traffic there were only two accidents in the Protectorate during the year under review; neither resulted in any serious injury.

The first occurred in May when a Royal Air Force Harvard aircraft landed short of the runway at Chileka, owing to misjudgment by the pilot, and crashed. The other occurred in November when a "Piper Cub" aircraft belonging to the Nyasaland Aviation Company crash-landed near the District Headquarters at Chikwawa *en route* from Salisbury to Chileka. The findings of the court of inquiry indicated that the pilot had failed to apply the elementary principles of air navigation and airmanship.

Owing to the considerably increased requests for expanded aeradio facilities in Northern Rhodesia and the lack of suitable equipment and trained personnel, it was found impracticable to implement the original proposals for a joint Central African Aeradio Service under the direction and control of the Postmaster General, Southern Rhodesia. The breakdown in the original plan has resulted in the formation of a separate aeradio service in Northern Rhodesia under the Northern Rhodesia Department of Civil Aviation, but it will remain closely integrated with those of Southern Rhodesia and Nyasaland and will, in effect, combine with them to make a joint service. In Nyasaland, investigations are now being made with a view to forming a joint service with Southern Rhodesia, and it is hoped to reach an early decision, as it will not be practicable to provide a twenty-four hour meteorological service from Chileka until the appropriate aeradio facilities are available.

Formal approval has been received for the stabilisation and paving of runways at Chileka and Lilongwe and the erection of a terminal building at Chileka, to be financed from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, and it is hoped to proceed with this work early in 1948.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

Statistics for 1947 show a considerable increase in the volume of mails compared with previous years. Over 8,000,000 items were handled in the Protectorate during the year. Use of the telegraph and telephone services also continues to increase, throwing a heavy strain on a system which is still mainly pre-war in the extent and age of its equipment. It was, however, possible to install a new switchboard at Blantyre and to open the Lilongwe exchange to give a local service to the subscribers there, although delay in the delivery of materials has prevented this system being linked with the rest of the country. Only one important centre, Mzimba, is not served by telegraph but it has for some years past been provided with wireless communication.

Daily airmails to neighbouring territories and to the United Kingdom were introduced in August, and daily internal services to most parts of the

Protectorate are now available, following upon the development of the Nyasaland Transport Company's bus services.

Postal revenue continues to increase, the principal increases during 1947 being in respect of telegraph and telephone receipts and the sale of stamps. The Protectorate's stamps retain their popularity with collectors, and both the Peace issue and the new penny stamp, which replaced the askari's head design towards the end of the year, were in considerable demand.

Chapter 12: Research and Other Activities

Although there is still little specialised research in the Protectorate a great deal of detailed investigation is always being carried on, especially by those, official and non-official alike, who have to deal with problems in the field and try to solve them there. This applies mainly to those engaged in the various forms of land usage and in medical work, but in a country like Nyasaland most people with a hobby can be said to be adding to the general total of knowledge. In the past much of the results of these individual investigations has undoubtedly been lost but it is hoped that the activities of the Nyasaland Society and the pages of its Journal, together with other means of preservation, will enable such contributions to be more widely disseminated and less easily forgotten. The appointment during the year of a Research Secretary to the Central African Council, charged in the first place with a survey of existing research facilities and projects with a view to extension, co-ordination, and general assistance, is a valuable advance. It comes at a time when funds, staff, and facilities for research are becoming available after a lean period (the Agricultural Department, for example, was without either a chemist or an entomologist for most of the year). Another important step forward was the approval during the year of the establishment, mainly from Colonial Development and Welfare funds, of an Agricultural Experimental Station near Lilongwe. This station will engage in general agricultural research, but more particularly in relation to long-range problems of crop rotation and the maintenance of soil fertility. The necessary land was acquired before the end of the year and bricks were burned so that building might be begun in 1948. The recruitment of staff and the selection of equipment were also begun.

Existing institutions, the Tea and Tung Experimental Stations continued their work, and there was also continued investigation of the problems arising from the Vipya tung development. The Tsetse Entomologist was chiefly engaged in a survey of the distribution of the tsetse fly in Nyasaland, but observation posts were also established in order to obtain information regarding the use of certain common types of vegetation by the fly and also about annual fluctuations in the tsetse population. The Marine Biologist completed her work in the country early in 1947, but her report was still awaited at the end of the year. The Fisheries Officer was partly engaged in following up certain of her work.

A new departure was the establishment during the year of a Game,

Fish, and Tsetse Control Branch of the Administration, responsible for all operations in these connections and also charged with locust reporting and control. The fisheries and tsetse fly staff were brought under this Branch, which is also concerned with the activities of the Cultivation Protectors. These, comprising four European temporary officers each with a team of African hunters, are engaged in operations against game doing damage to crops, due regard being shown to Nyasaland's obligations respecting the preservation of fauna. These operations, financed from the Native Development and Welfare Fund, did not begin until the closing months of the year and material results are therefore not yet available, but there is reason to believe that the mere introduction of the scheme has had a beneficial psychological effect upon the cultivators in some of the areas which it affects.

Another new and important development was in connection with the proper handling and preservation of the country's archives, following the enactment in 1946 of an Archives Ordinance. A depot of the Royal Central African Archives (a service common to the three Central African territories) was opened in Zomba in July 1947, and work was begun on the Secretariat records which, from 1919 to 1933 (the earlier ones were lost in the fire of 1919) have been transferred to the custody of the Archives. The sorting and scheduling of these was in progress at the end of the year, and all other Departments had been requested to schedule their non-current records, as a preliminary to destroying those of no value and transferring the remainder to the Archives. Much of the early archive material of the Protectorate has already been lost, but the new arrangements should enable everything still extant which has any permanent administrative, legal, or historical value to be preserved. A library of official and other publications relating to East and Central Africa is being formed as a reference and research aid to the records themselves, a collection which will be assisted by the Printed Publications Ordinance to which reference was made in Part II, Chapter 8.

The production of vernacular literature, which was described at some length in the 1946 Report, continued during the year. Total sales under this scheme during the year amounted to 17,000 volumes. The best-seller continued to be *Banja Lathu*, a volume on family ethics and general civics; following, but far behind, was a book of traditional Chewa history, published during the year.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

THE Protectorate of Nyasaland is some 520 miles in length and varies in width from 50 to 100 miles. It lies approximately between $9^{\circ} 45'$ and $17^{\circ} 16'$ south latitude and 33° and 36° east longitude. It is bounded on the east by Tanganyika Territory and Portuguese East Africa, on the south by Portuguese East Africa, on the west by Portuguese East Africa and Northern Rhodesia, and on the north by Tanganyika Territory. The land area of the Protectorate is about 37,000 square miles, or nearly three-quarters the area of England. The southern tip of the country is 130 miles from the sea.

The key to the physiography of the Protectorate is that part of the Great Rift Valley which, running down from the north, traverses Nyasaland from end to end. In this deep trough lies Lake Nyasa, 360 miles long and varying in width from 10 to 50 miles. The surface of the Lake is 1,500 ft. above sea-level and its greatest depth about 2,300 ft., so that the lowest part of the floor of the trough is over 700 ft. below sea-level. From the south end of the Lake issues the River Shire, which falls to about 120 ft. above sea-level at Port Herald and finally joins the Zambesi 250 miles from the Lake.

The country east and west of the Rift Valley rises in mountains, generally steep and sometimes precipitous, to form high plateaux. West of the Lake these are generally between 3,300 and 4,400 ft. above sea-level, but in the north the Nyika uplands rise as high as 8,000 ft. South of the Lake lie the Shire Highlands with a general elevation of 2,000 to 3,500 ft. rising to the mountain masses of Zomba (7,000 ft.) and Mlanje (10,000 ft.). In the extreme south the rift, occupied by the lower part of the Shire, is only 200 to 300 ft. above sea-level.

The only other geographical features of any note are the two minor lakes, Chiuta and Chilwa, which lie on the Portuguese border to the east, between Lake Nyasa and the Mlanje Range.

On the Lake shore there is a distinctive climate; the temperature seldom rises above 100° F. but the proximity of the Lake and the generally heavy rainfall during the wet season create a humid atmosphere which is trying. Elsewhere the climate varies with the altitude. In the highlands it is equable and healthy, and at altitudes above 3,000 ft. extreme heat is unusual and fires are welcome in the evenings of the cold season. In the Shire Valley the temperature rises to 115° F. in October and November.

The rainfall divides the year into two seasons, the dry season from May to October and the wet season from November to April. The first rains

are due at any time after mid-October and from then until the end of December there are violent thunderstorms with heavy rain of no long duration, occurring at irregular intervals, these intervals being hot and oppressive. Steady rains should be established in January and continue until about the end of March, often rising to a crescendo of storms in the last week or two of the season. Dry spells of a week or more frequently occur about the beginning of February. After March rainfall diminishes rapidly and from May to September the climate is on the whole cool and dry. Heavy Scotch mists, known locally as *chiperonos* (as they appear to come from Chiperone Mountain in Portuguese territory), are common in the highlands in June and July. The country can be divided into some seven zones of rainfall; with annual falls ranging from under 30 in. to over 70 in., and the distribution of the dry season fall determines the areas suitable for certain crops. It has been suggested, for example, that the limit of the true tea, coffee, and tung areas of the country may be traced on the dry season rainfall map by the 7-in. isohyet.

The small size of Nyasaland and the great variety of physical and climatic conditions within it, greatly though they add to the attractiveness of the country, account together for many of the difficulties and much of the expense involved in its administration and development.

Chapter 2: History

Nyasaland is Livingstone's country. It is true that there are various Portuguese records from 1616 onwards of occasional journeys made across the southern end of what is now the Protectorate, and that in the eighteenth century Portuguese officials and miners penetrated into the neighbourhood of the present Northern Rhodesian border, not far from the site of Fort Jameson, but none of these left any lasting trace. It is also true that from an indefinite date, perhaps the sixteenth century, until almost the end of the nineteenth, there was constant passage through and settlement in Nyasaland by migrating Bantu tribes, but their traditions, as at present known, are too vague to be given the name of history.

The history of Nyasaland can therefore be said to begin with David Livingstone's discovery of Lake Nyasa on 16th September, 1859. In the early sixties the path he had opened was followed, under his guidance, by the pioneers of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, but in the short time between these expeditions the country had been defaced by tribal wars and slave raids in a way which made a harrowing contrast to the smiling land and people seen earlier by the great explorer. The missionary pioneers retired in the face of disease and death, after suffering heavy and tragic losses, and the Universities' Mission did not return until 1881.

After Livingstone's death, and inspired by it, both the Church of Scotland and the Free Church of Scotland established missions in 1874-5 as memorials to him, the former at Blantyre, named after his Scottish birthplace, and the latter at Livingstonia, first sited at the south end of the Lake but soon removed to the north. At this period, to quote the Belle

Report, "Nyasaland was a whirlpool of migrant tribes, war and slave-raiding, and during the dry season caravans of slaves in chains and slave-sticks started from the areas round the mission stations for the coast ports." These constituted a challenge which neither Christianity nor ordinary European humanity could ignore, and it is to the eternal credit of the Scottish missions that next after Livingstone's name in the roll of Nyasaland's great pioneers must be inscribed the names of Robert Laws of Livingstonia and Alexander Hetherwick of Blantyre, to whose services the country largely owes the growth of a *pax Britannica* rather than the imposition of a *pax Romana*.

At this early period there were no means of obtaining supplies or services except by the exchange of trade goods, chiefly calico, and the missions had perforce to trade. To relieve the missionaries of much of the commercial side of their activities a number of business men, mainly from Glasgow, who were interested in Livingstonia, formed in 1878 the African Lakes Company as a transport and trading concern to work in close co-operation with mission activities, the original heads of the company (now the African Lakes Corporation) being the brothers Moir. One of their objects was to achieve Livingstone's aim of combating the slave trade by rendering it economically unsound in the face of legitimate commerce as well as by the spreading of Christianity.

These pioneers were followed by other Europeans, missionaries, traders, hunters, and coffee planters, but not until 1883 did a representative of the British Government appear, in the shape of a Consul accredited to "the Kings and Chiefs of Central Africa." The second consul established himself at Zomba, now the seat of Government.

By now the first of Nyasaland's nineteenth century invaders, the Angoni—who are entitled to claim descent from Chaka's Zulu—had almost ended their wanderings, which had taken them in fifty years from Natal to Lake Tanganyika and back to the hinterland of Lake Nyasa. The Yao, starting from somewhere about the head-waters of the Rovuma River on the modern border between Tanganyika Territory and Portuguese East Africa, were still on the move round the south end of the Lake, warring as they went. At the same time the slave-traders at the north end of the country were becoming steadily more inconvenienced by the competition in religion and commerce by which they were now faced, and in 1888 trouble, followed by open warfare, arose between the Arab leaders of the trade and the African Lakes Company, who had to expend most of their resources on military operations. Fortunately for Nyasaland it came under the eye of Cecil Rhodes, whose British South Africa Company came to the financial rescue.

About this time, too, the Portuguese Government began to cast interested eyes on the lands to the north of the Zambesi, on which river it had long had military and trading posts, and there was a certain degree of international friction. In 1889, however, one cause of friction was removed by the discovery of a navigable route through the Zambesi delta from the Indian Ocean. This made Nyasaland accessible, by way of the Zambesi and the Shire, by an international waterway without touching Portuguese territory. Nevertheless, in the same year a conflict took place

on the Lower Shire between a well-armed Portuguese expedition under Major Serpa Pinto and one of the Makololo chiefs, in consequence of which the Acting Consul, a pioneer planter named Buchanan, proclaimed a British Protectorate over the Shire country on 21st September, 1889, almost exactly thirty years after Livingstone first set foot on the shores of Lake Nyasa.

In 1891 an Anglo-Portuguese Convention ratified the work of Mr. H. H. (later Sir Harry) Johnston, Mr. (later Sir) Alfred Sharpe, and others and a Protectorate was proclaimed over the countries adjoining Lake Nyasa. In 1893 the name of the territory was changed to "The British Central Africa Protectorate," but in 1907 a further Order-in-Council revived the old name of "The Nyasaland Protectorate." It must here be emphasised that Nyasaland did not fall under British influence by conquest or annexation. It was led under the protection of the Crown by British missionaries and traders with, as the first Proclamation put it, "the consent and desire of the Chiefs and people." The note thus struck rings to-day in the degree of harmony which still persists in its more modern life.

By 1896 the slave trade had been extinguished and the countries of the Yao and the Southern Angoni pacified, although the Northern Angoni did not come fully within the sphere of British Administration until 1904. They had, however, long given up raiding their neighbours, partly because of an unpleasant military surprise inflicted upon them by the Achewa to their south, but undoubtedly mainly because of the immense influence acquired over their Paramount Chief by Dr. Laws, to whom, with his colleagues, was due the peaceful entry into the British Commonwealth of 100,000 people with their 5,000 square miles of territory.

Since then the life of the country has on the whole been peaceful, though of course affected like that of every other land by the two world wars. Nyasaland's position in 1914 with her long common border with German East Africa was dangerous, but prompt action on both land and water scotched the immediate danger, and she was able to contribute greatly to the British forces which waged the long and costly East African campaign. It was during this war that the country suffered the only armed rising in its modern history, when one John Chilembwe, a native pastor half-educated in the United States and egged on by the German authorities, rose with his followers in the Blantyre neighbourhood and murdered several Europeans against whom the rebels had personal grudges. Rapid counter-measures were taken and the rising fizzled out with the death of its leader in a scuffle in the bush on the Portuguese border. To the credit of these misguided men it must be recorded that such European women and children as fell into their hands were treated with the utmost consideration.

The year 1939 found the Protectorate far from any front, but nevertheless in a position to aid the war effort very considerably, in relation to her size, in both men and materials. In peacetime Nyasaland raises the two senior regular battalions of the King's African Rifles, and the First Battalion maintained its pride of place by being the first African colonial unit to be in action, in 1940 against the Italians on the Abyssinian border, and the last out of action in 1945, in the neighbourhood of Rangoon, after

adding Abyssinia, Madagascar, and Burma to a list of campaigning grounds which in the previous fifty years had embraced much of tropical Africa. By the end of the war nearly 30,000 Nyasalanders, including a very high proportion of the Protectorate's small European population—men and women—had served in the forces, and to the two original battalions had been added a further seven line battalions, two field regiments of artillery, over 4,000 drivers in the East African Army Service Corps, and numerous other garrison and ancillary troops. The wandering habits of the natives of the country, to which fuller reference is made below, led also to their appearance in many of the non-Nyasaland units of the East African forces, in the non-European units of the Union Defence Force, and in the Pioneers. A few of the last named had the misfortune to be taken prisoner at Tobruk and thereby made the acquaintance of Italy and Germany before they were liberated.

The social and economic history of the Protectorate since its proclamation is on the whole one of steady progress. Migratory tribal units have become stabilised, and the last flood of immigrants was one of natives of Portuguese territory swarming over the border in search of work on the tea estates and later settling down in the Southern Province. Thanks largely to the work of the missions, which now have among them representatives of the Roman Catholic Church, the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa, and the Seventh Day Adventists, as well as the successors of the Scottish and Anglican pioneers, education has made considerable strides, skilled craftsmen continue to increase in numbers, and medical aid has reached far beyond the more settled areas of the country. The influences of western culture have undoubtedly done much to drag the African from the anchorages of his tribal beliefs and discipline, but on the credit side there has probably been the building up of more sound moral character than the superficial observer often believes. As in material progress much of the credit belongs to the missions, so in this moral sphere much is due to the influence and example of lay Europeans, both men and women. A comparatively recent advance is the inculcation among Africans of a spirit of voluntary service to their fellows, which had not been encouraged by an earlier insistence on the virtues of rugged individualism, usually expressed in terms of cash. As social welfare activities grow, so will the field for such service expand, but it is already finding its opportunity in probation work, in scouting, and in the management of such recreational activities as football leagues.

Reference has already been made to the wandering habits of the Nyasaland native. Travel is in his blood, life at home is apt to be dull, and in a predominantly agricultural country cash returns are low. It was not long, therefore, after the pacification of the country that he began to find his way to the higher cash wages of Rhodesia and the bright lights of the Rand. The Nyasa is now to be found in South Africa, the Rhodesias, Tanganyika, Kenya, the Belgian Congo, Portuguese East Africa and London. He has also been reported from the New York waterfront. The stream of emigrants swelled steadily into a flood, until by the nineteen-thirties it was safe to say that nearly a third of the able-bodied men of Nyasaland were away from the country at any given time, with results

regrettable, and occasionally calamitous, to village life. Since then measures have been taken to control the flow to some extent, to safeguard the emigrant while out of the country, and to ensure that in as many cases as possible he, and his savings, return home after a fairly short period, either for good or for regular holidays. The country's contribution to the economic progress of its neighbours has therefore been considerable, possibly too considerable for its own good.

Otherwise, the economic history of Nyasaland is its agricultural history which is a record of pioneer planting by Europeans of single products over large areas with little previous experimental work, save perhaps in the most recent instance, tung. The earliest economic crop was coffee—a coffee tree figured prominently in the Protectorate's first coat of arms—which was displaced by cotton. Cotton then gave way to tobacco and tea, and these two may now be regarded as established crops. Tung grows steadily in importance, but its position as a major crop will depend very largely on the result of the experiments now being carried on in connection with the Vipya development scheme. The last twenty years have also seen the establishment of certain minor secondary industries, but it is unlikely that most of these will ever be of more than local importance. They do, however, contribute considerably to the comfort and well-being of the population, in their provision of cheap soap, cigarettes, and shoe-leather.

No sketch of the history of Nyasaland would be complete without reference to the development of its communications. In the early days the Zambesi, the Shire, and Lake Nyasa provided the main artery of communication, interrupted only by the sixty-mile portage round the Murchison Cataracts. By the time that the Chinde mouth of the Zambesi was discovered in 1889, the level of the Shire had begun to fall, and steamers could not proceed beyond Chiromo. The growing importance of Blantyre led to the planning of a railway to it from the Lower Shire, and in 1907 work was begun on a line from Chiromo to Blantyre. Almost immediately, however, the continued fall in the level of the river made Chiromo useless as a port, and the railway was continued to Port Herald, the line being opened in 1908. Port Herald then became difficult or impossible of approach for steamers, and between 1913 and 1915 a further fifty miles of railway were constructed between Port Herald and Chindio on the northern bank of the Zambesi in Portuguese territory.

Meantime the level of the Upper Shire was also falling, and in due course steamer traffic became impossible outside Lake Nyasa. The Blantyre-Zomba road, one of the first to be made in the country, was therefore extended to Fort Johnston, at the south end of the Lake, and this was the main transport route in use during the first world war. The Protectorate is linked by road with all its neighbours, and the trunk roads from Blantyre to Mbeya and from Salima to Fort Jameson are important parts of the main communications of Central Africa.

Navigation on the Zambesi next became uncertain, and a railway, opened in 1922, was built from Murraca, on the south bank of the Zambesi nearly opposite Chindio, to Dondo, eighteen miles from Beira, on the line from Beira to Rhodesia. The ferry service was, however, unsatisfactory

and the line was frequently washed out by floods. In 1935, therefore, a railway bridge across the Zambesi was opened, and at the same time the line was extended from Blantyre to the neighbourhood of Lake Nyasa at Salima, giving uninterrupted rail communication between the Lake at Chipoka and Beira on the Indian Ocean. As an illustration of the trials of those who plan in Africa, it may be added that about the time this link was completed the Lake began to rise again and the Shire with it, so that in the rainy season the railway bridge at Chiromo may have more than 20 ft. of water under it. A re-alignment of the track in this neighbourhood became urgently necessary and was completed during 1947.

Chapter 3: Administration

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor assisted by an Executive Council composed of the Chief Secretary, the Financial Secretary and the Attorney General, as *ex-officio* members, and the Provincial Commissioner of the Southern Province and two unofficials as nominated members. The Laws of the Protectorate are made by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council constituted by the Nyasaland Order in Council, 1907. The Legislative Council consists of the Governor as President, six official members, including the three *ex-officio* members and six unofficial members. Five of the unofficial members are selected for nomination by public bodies representing European interests; the sixth, who for many years has been selected from one of the Missionary Societies, is nominated by the Governor to represent native interests, which are also the direct concern of the official members.

The judicial system of the Protectorate is described in Part II, Chapter 9.

The principal departments of Government apart from the Provincial and District Administration are: Judicial, Legal, Medical, Agriculture, Public Works, Education, Police, Prisons and Lunatic Asylum, Geological Survey, Veterinary, Forestry, Posts and Telegraphs, Audit, Lands and Surveys, Customs, and Printing and Stationery. Game, Fish and Tsetse Control and Co-operative Branches of the Administration were established during the year.

The policy of the Government is defined and controlled in the Secretariat. The Chief Secretary is the channel of communication between Government on the one hand and heads of departments and the general public on the other. He is the head of the Civil Service.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate is divided into three provinces, Northern, Central and Southern, each in charge of a Provincial Commissioner who is responsible to the Governor for the administration of his Province. The Provinces are divided into districts in charge of District Commissioners who are responsible to the Provincial Commissioner. Both Provincial and District Officers are responsible for the good conduct of the Native Administrations within their areas.

The townships of Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba, and Lilongwe are

administered in their domestic affairs by town councils, which in the two former cases are elected by the ratepayers and in the two latter are nominated by the Governor.

Local native self-government was introduced into the Protectorate in 1933 and has achieved considerable progress. Administrative and judicial work has been increasingly delegated to Native Authorities who have carried out their responsibilities with considerable success. Among the duties delegated one of the most important is the collection of native tax, the bulk of which is now collected by Native Administrations. Native Treasuries have tended towards amalgamation into larger units thus permitting the pooling of funds for minor local works and for improving the conditions of service of employees of the administrations. All the Treasuries in the Southern Province were federated during the year.

In 1944 and 1945 African Provincial Councils were set up in the three Provinces under the Chairmanship of the Provincial Commissioners. These Councils, which are advisory, are composed of Chiefs and other responsible African members under the presidency of the Provincial Commissioners and are designed to facilitate consultation between Government and the African population through their leaders, to provide a ready and authoritative means for expression of African opinion and to promote the development of political responsibility among Africans. The Councils have proved very successful in operation.

In 1946 the further step of creating an African Protectorate Council was taken. This Council comprises twenty members chosen from the membership of the Provincial Councils and is under the Chairmanship of the Chief Secretary.

The African Protectorate Council met twice during the year and discussed a variety of subjects connected with African affairs. These included the rate of native tax to be prescribed for 1948, the machinery for recognising alterations in native customary law, the Native Courts Bill referred to in Part II, Chapter 8, and the powers of Native Courts to order corporal punishment. The standard of debate was high, and there was no hesitation in criticising the Government's proposals where this was felt to be necessary. One member expressed his pleasure that relations between the Protectorate Government and the native population were such that criticism could be voiced and listened to without harsh feelings on either side.

It had been felt for some time that liaison between the Native Administrations and their people was not as close as was desirable, and action was taken during the year to establish, or in some cases to revive Group Councils within Native Authorities' areas, on what might be described as the "parish" level.

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

Standard British weights and measures are in use throughout the Protectorate.

Chapter 5: Newspapers and Periodicals

The Nyasaland Times, published by the Blantyre Printing and Publishing Company, twice weekly, is the only local English newspaper.

Nkhani za Nyasaland is a vernacular news-sheet published by the Information Officer.

Several of the missionary societies publish magazines, chiefly in the vernacular.

South African and Rhodesian newspapers, European and African, have a considerable circulation in the Protectorate.

Chapter 6: Bibliography

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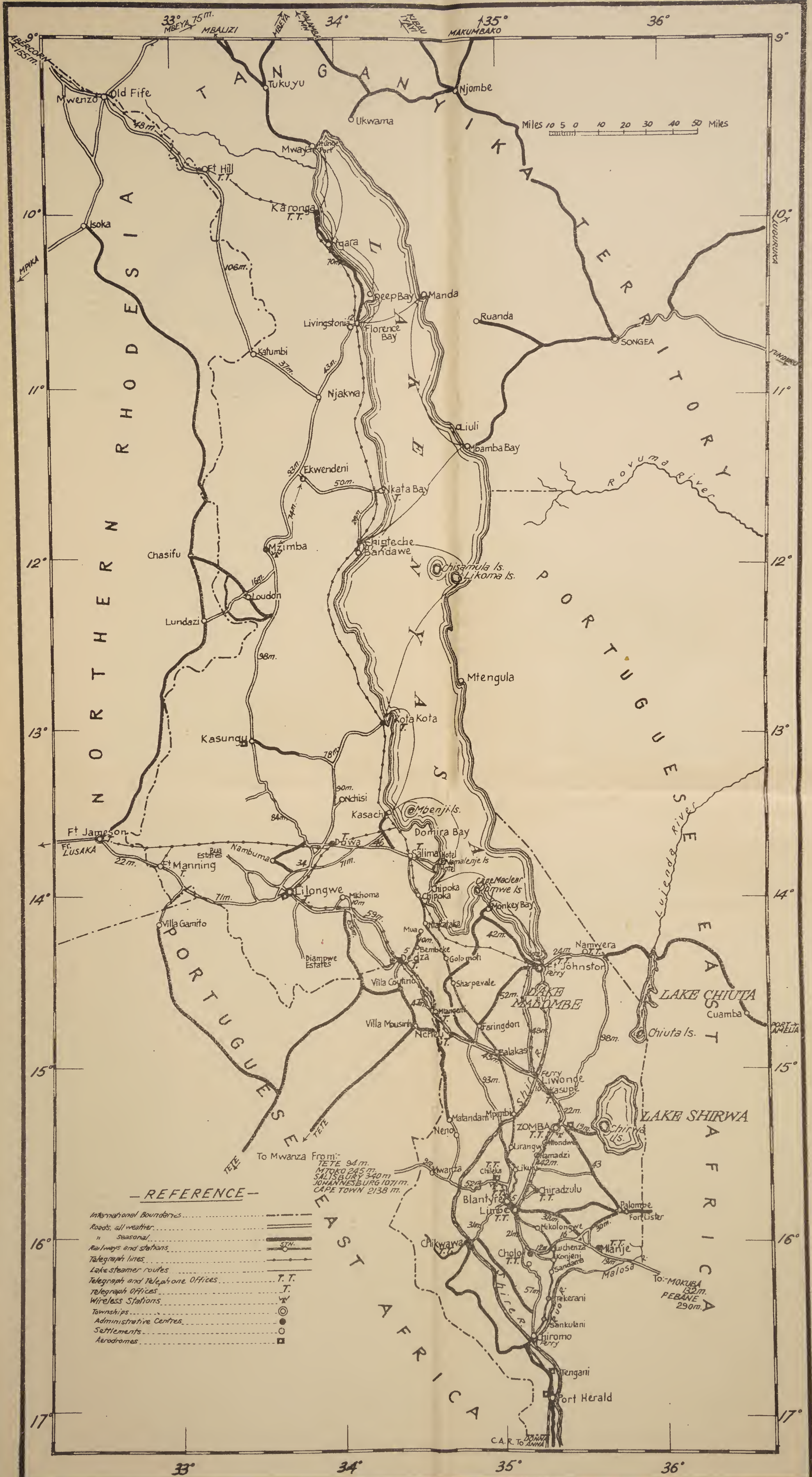


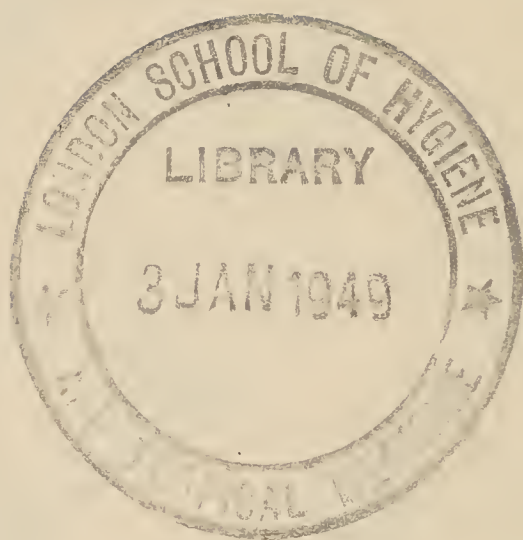
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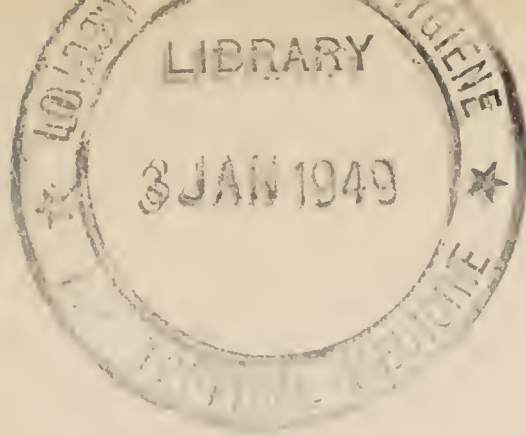
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